

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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CONTENTS.

Epitome	PAGE
Leading Articles:—	
The Northern Crisis	98
The Balkan Troubles	98
The Registration of Domestic Servants	99
The Kowloon-Canton Railway	99
Hongkong and the Fiscal Question	99
Sir Harry Parkes and Hongkong	100
Hongkong Jottings	100
The Northern Crisis	101
Ball at Government House	102
A New French Canton Steamer	103
Mr. W. Freear at the Theatre	103
Canton	104
Foochow	104
Correspondence	104
School Prize-Givings at Hongkong	105
Pallois Public School	106
The Anglo-Chinese District School	107
Queen's College	107
Ellis-Madocore Chinese School Society	110
St. Stephen's College	110
Ko-n-Hew Fee School	112
National Bank of China, Ltd.	112
Hongkong Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., Ltd.	112
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	113
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	113
Humphrey's Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.	114
Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd.	114
Supreme Court	114
Sporting Notes	115
Cricket	116
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club	116
Hongkong	117
Miscellaneous	117
Commercial	118
Shipping	119

BIRTHS.

On the 31st December, 1903, at Newchwang, the wife of ALBERT O. WILSON, of a daughter.

On the 25th January, at 8, Chefoo Road, Shanghai, the wife of GEO. S. BURGESS, of a daughter.

On the 26th January, 1904, at No. 8A, The Bund, Shanghai, the wife of COMM. E. GHISI, of a son.

On the 3rd February, 1904, at Swatow, the wife of V. J. McLOUGHLIN, of a daughter.

On the 4th February, 1904, at the Government Civil Hospital, the wife of THOMAS COCK, of Shanghai, of a daughter, stillborn.

On the 5th February, AUGUSTA DELCEIA DA SILVA, the beloved wife of EMILIANO DA SILVA. Deeply regretted.

MARRIAGE.

On the 21st January, at Yokohama, by the Rev. E. S. Booth, in the presence of E. C. Bellows, Consul-General of the United States, GEORGE DENISON MORGAN, of New York, to Miss YUKI KAT, of Kyoto.

DEATHS.

On the 24th January, at Okayama, Mrs. HISA YAMADA, mother of Mrs. GAUNTLETT, aged 58 years.

On the 24th January, at 5, Dublin Road, Singapore, the son of Mr. and Mrs. ED. M. NATHAN, aged 5½ months.

On the 25th January, at Batavia, in the Tjikini Hospital, ANNA, the beloved wife of D. J. VAN WINGAARDEN, of Singapore, aged 46 years.

On the 27th January, at the Victoria Nursing Home, Shanghai, CHARLES S. MOSS, third son of the late C. D. MOSS, of Yokohama.

On the 27th January, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, WILLIAM HENRY THOMAS, late of Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd., aged 32 years.

On the 27th January, at the Nursing Home, Shanghai, CHARLES STANLEY MOSS, aged 24 years.

On the 28th January, 1904, at his residence, 12, Quinsan Gardens, Shanghai, E. J. LIMBY, aged 63 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of the 1st ult., arrived per s.s. *Chusan* on the 30th ult.; the German Mail arrived per s.s. *Seydlitz* on the 4th inst.; and the French Mail of the 8th ult., arrived per s.s. *Australien* on the 8th inst.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK

We received a telegram this morning from London stating that war had been declared between Japan and Russia, no confirmation of the intelligence could be obtained from the Japanese Consul. It is, however, known on the best authority that the Japanese Minister at St. Petersburg has been recalled.

A Russian Army Order, dated 21st January, increases the strength of the infantry reserves in Russia.

Anti-Christian feeling is reported from some districts of Anhwei, causing the provincial authorities much alarm.

3,000 bales of cotton left Houston, Texas, on the 28th ult., for Japan. This is the record consignment for the Far East.

The Russian battleship *Orelabya*, the transport *Saratoff*, and three destroyers left Surz on the 3rd inst. for the Far East.

It is reported that in the event of a Russo-Japanese war, the command of the Russian land forces will be entrusted to General Kuropatkin.

The Japanese cruisers *Kasuga* and *Nisshin* left Singapore on the morning of the 6th inst., bound for Japan. On the same day H.M.S. *King Alred* arrived.

The Japanese Commercial Agent at Vladivostok informs the Government that all Japanese have been ordered to leave Vladivostok, which is now under martial law.

It is known that both Russia and Japan have within the last fortnight officially communicated to the Powers a statement of their positions regarding some of the points at issue.

A home paper of the 1st ult. says:—The *Intepia* and *Latona* have been docked at Portsmouth to prepare for foreign service, which, rumour says, will be on the China station.

It is stated in St. Petersburg that the merchandise traffic on the Trans-Siberian Railway will be provisionally suspended from the 2nd February, in order to leave the line free for the conveyance of troops and stores.

Mr. Jack London, correspondent for the Hearst newspapers, en route for Chemulpo, was arrested at Shimonsu on the 4th inst. for taking photographs within the strategical zone, and was escorted to the Kokura Court.

Reuter's correspondent at Port Arthur wires that the Russian fleet put to sea at dawn on Wednesday and returned to the anchorage outside the harbour at 4 p.m. on the 4th inst.

It is stated at St. Petersburg that 50,000 troops are expected shortly at Vladivostok to strengthen the garrison. All the reserves for the Far East will probably be mobilised soon.

The stock of coal in Port Arthur at present is 120,000 tons of Cardiff, and 80,000 of Japanese. There were forty men-of-war in and outside the harbour the week before last. The Viceroy had then over 100,000 troops under his orders, and 80,000 more are on their way out from Russia via Siberia.

News from St. Petersburg says that the General Staff has authorised Admiral Alexieff to declare war and to open hostilities if circumstances indicate the necessity. An Imperial Manifesto proclaiming war is expected to follow sharply if Japan rejects the arrangement proposed in the Russian reply.

Messrs. Vickers, Sons, & Maxim and Messrs. Armstrong & Co. received orders on the 30th ult. to proceed with the construction and the complete equipment of two new Japanese warships as speedily as possible. The tonnage of each ship is to be 16,400, speed 19 knots, and the armament heavier than that of the best British warship.

Chief Justice Arellano on the 1st inst. administered the oaths of office to Governor Luke E. Wright and Vice-Governor Henry C. Ide in the Marble Hall of the Palace, Manila, in the presence of hundreds of spectators, including the heads of the Civil and Military Governments of the Church, and of the Foreign Consuls.

According to a Berlin telegram, Russia has rejected all the numerous offers made to her by shipbuilders of different countries to sell to her men-of-war which are now being constructed and nearly completed. The report, according to which Russia has offered to the Portuguese Government to buy the Portuguese navy, is stated to be unfounded.

The renewed postponement of Russian reply to Japan is stated to have caused great exasperation in Japan. Viscount Ito was summoned from his country seat during the night, and subsequently a seven hours' Council was held, at which the Premier, the Senior Statesmen, the Ministers of War and the Navy, and three Admirals were present. Great importance is attached to the meeting.

Mr. J. Johnstone Keswick, late of Hongkong and Sir Cecil Clementi Smith, formerly Colonial Secretary of Hongkong, and afterwards Governor of the Straits Settlements, have agreed to accept seats on the Tariff Reform Commission. Mr. Chamberlain proposes to leave Eng. and about February 15th for a short holiday, and when he returns will consider a new list for a second campaign.

Russia's reply was forwarded on the 4th inst. to Admiral Alexieff, and if approved of by him, was to be despatched to Tokyo, where it will arrive to-day at the latest. The belief prevailed in St. Petersburg that Russia does not concede to Japan's demands regarding Manchuria. The Times correspondent in St. Petersburg says that the Tsar's hesitation has been overcome and that Russia makes no concession.

THE NORTHERN CRISIS.

(Daily Press, 30th January.)

It is now clear that the present relations between Japan and Russia must come to an end in a few days' time. The news is confirmed from Japan that Russia has been asked for an early response to the late Note addressed to her. REUTER adds to this information the remark that it seems likely that Japan will act decisively in a few days (i.e., from the 27th instant), and that, though many have hitherto objected to Japan taking the initiative, the majority would now welcome an ultimatum or, if necessary, a declaration of war. This, we suppose, refers to opinion in Japan, not in Europe; for it is very unlikely that opinion in Europe has changed so suddenly that now it would welcome the outbreak of war. Continental European sympathy, it is true, has veered round slightly in favour of Japan owing to the honesty of her attitude compared with that of Russia. But still none of the Powers on the Continent desire to see war. It is unnecessary to add that Britain does not either, but in Britain it would be equally unwelcome to see Japan diplomatically worsted. The insincere attempt of that contemptible Russian tool Prince CHING is only interesting as showing that he is as much under the thumb of the Muscovite as ever. The British and United States Ministers appear to have treated him very politely, while getting him to admit that the suggestion put forward by him to invite the mediation of the Powers between Japan and Russia emanated from the Minister of the latter country at Peking. It is a week ago now since we learnt that Japan had informed the London, Washington, and Berlin Governments that mediation would not be acceptable to her. This being the case, it is too late in the day for Prince CHING to appear on the scene in the character of a senile *deus ex machina*. We cannot but hold that Japan is right in refusing at this time to listen to talk about mediation. Russia's policy having been all through one of procrastination for the purpose of strengthening her position, could the mediating Powers guarantee that she would not use the time spent in negotiations in the same way, and, if the mediation were to be broken off at length through Russia's fault, to force her to accept their decision? They could not do so, and a failure of negotiations might then mean the ruin of Japan. At the present we do not believe that this is the necessary end of a Russo-Japanese war, loudly as some critics proclaim it. Japan is in a very favourable position just now. It is of no use to talk about Russia's millions of men, as if all they have to do is to walk into Tokyo. The decisive blows must be struck on the sea. In the course of an article in the *North-China Daily News* early in this week, the situation was summed up very justly. Our contemporary sketched the probable plan of Japan's campaign, saying:—"Hostilities will be opened by a naval engagement. The Russian naval force is at the present moment in three sections, the largest at Port Arthur, one at Vladivostock, while the third is now its way from Suez, preceded by the two new Japanese cruisers from Genoa. Japan has the strategic advantage of being in the centre between these three sections. We learnt a few days ago that the Vladivostock section of the Russian fleet started out to join the main body at Port Arthur, but had to return because, owing to the ice, it could not make more than four knots. The real reason for its return was that the Japanese

standing squadron was waiting for it in the Korean Straits. The naval engagement that we are awaiting will come from Japan's determination not to allow the Vladivostock squadron or the squadron that is coming from Europe to join the main body of the Russian fleet at Port Arthur." It is still the progress of the cruisers *Nisshin* and *Kasuga*, which should now be between Colombo and Singapore, which must determine Japan's decision as to the time beyond which further waiting is unprofitable. This is not, of course, because of any enormous value attached to the new warships, but that when they are in touch with the rest of the fleet, the Japanese Navy will be at its strongest possible and ready to strike a blow in any of three directions. Russia's Mediterranean squadron will be still coming out slowly, hampered by the duty of convoying the torpedo-boats, and in the event of a declaration of war must be cut off entirely by want of coal. The Northern fleet will still be divided in two sections, and the control of the China Sea must be Japan's, unless she meets with some great naval disaster. Even in event of the disablement of any Japanese warships she has abundance of docks and harbours to fall back on, whereas Russia will be in a very different case. In fact, only an absolutely overwhelming victory could rescue Russia from impotence. We are bidden to look at her enormous armies. These, we suppose, will pour into Corea and maintain themselves by means of the Manchurian railway and the good-will of China, as far as provisions are concerned. But it cannot be argued that they can transport themselves into Japan without the command of the sea. We still think that the best guarantee of peace is Russia's inability to go to war at the present moment. Therefore Japan is well advised in doing as she is stated to be doing, that is, pressing for an immediate answer. It is not because she lightly faces a war which she estimates will cost her £40,000,000—this is the figure at which her Finance Minister arrives—but because she knows that, if war must come, the only war out of which she can hope to come well is a war to-day.

THE BALKAN TROUBLES.

(Daily Press, 2nd February.)

The "Near" East threatens to vie with the Far for a great share of public attention in the immediate future. A Berlin telegram of the 25th January to the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* announces that the Turko-Bulgarian tension is so pronounced again that Bulgaria is openly preparing for war in the coming spring, while Turkey has made an appeal to Russia and Austria-Hungary. There is no doubt that it is upon the attitude of Bulgaria that the peace of the Balkans, if it is ever possible to speak of "peace" in that turbulent region, hinges at present. Turkey is still playing the old game of promising reforms and procrastinating as long as possible to "save face"—a difficult task, it must be admitted, considering the Sultan's precarious position. The Turkish Government recognises the impossibility of getting out of the promised reforms altogether, but is anxious to secure modifications rendering the changes less humiliating in the eyes of the Turks. This is but natural, though the policy may not command our sympathy. Turkey is in a terrible position between her subjects and the Powers, and, however thoroughly we have to condemn the misgovernment which Turkish rule implies, we must make allowances for the desperate shifts of her statesmen. With Bulgaria the case is very different. That State

is not fighting for life but for aggrandisement, and is playing upon the Christian feelings of the European nations for all they are worth. But there is no sincerity in Bulgaria's attitude toward Macedonia and the reform scheme. Recently her Minister of War declared that if the effect of the reforms shows itself by the beginning of spring peace will be preserved. This is an overt threat of war, for it cannot be expected that the desired improvement in the condition of Macedonia can take place by the coming spring. The details are still being wrestled with, and, even were they all settled, a little time would be required to put the measures into operation. It is impossible to believe that Bulgaria really wishes to see the scheme in working order. A German correspondent writing to us from Constantinople points out that the scheme stipulates for equal rights for all nationalities in the Turkish province, which is not at all what Bulgaria has been striving for. This correspondent prophesies that the halcyon days of peace—it was comparative peace when he wrote—will disappear with the melting of the snows on the mountain passes of the Balkans, and he bases his pessimistic view of the situation on Bulgaria's secret attitude. He looks at first for a mere repetition of the Turkish attempts to quell the rebellion, the insurgents continuing their tactics of making Bulgaria their base of operations and the shelter to which they can retire to reinforce and re-arm themselves. The Turks are thereby far more harassed than they would be in actual war against Bulgaria and the *Komitadjis* simultaneously. But Turkey is not inclined to brook a long continuance of the state of affairs which prevailed last year. Turkish patriots are already inflamed at the imposition of the Murstag reform scheme on their country and, if they have to witness the Powers once more lending themselves to Bulgaria's game as in 1903, will break out beyond the control of the Government and attack Bulgarians alike in Turkey and in Bulgaria. Then, says the same correspondent, Europe may expect a series of horrors in comparison with which the Armenian massacres of 1896 and the outrages of 1903 were child's play. Perhaps then the European Powers may arrive at that unity of purpose which at present is believed in only by the most credulous observers of affairs in Eastern Europe. The Turkish Government, however, it can easily be understood, does not want war, for even in events of victory the loss of Macedonia and perhaps of the remainder of Turkey in Europe is threatened. Better the reforms than a Balkan war, Turkey's statesmen must hold. The Bulgarian people and the Government of the Principality, on the other hand, can lose little by war and might gain much, by the kindness of the Powers. The Government therefore does little to check public opinion in Bulgaria, but rather encourages the baiting of Turkey by all means short of open war before the coming spring. The Powers, however, do not want a Balkan war, and it seems to us that they must accordingly lend an ear to Turkey's appeal which we mentioned above. They must either administer a severe check to the troublesome Principality or they must look for an upheaval in the Balkans the end of which it is impossible to foresee, though its terrible nature is obvious enough.

It is announced in St. Petersburg that Russia's reply to Japan will not be transmitted until next week, owing to the great care that is necessary for its completion.

THE REGISTRATION OF DOMESTIC SERVANTS.

(Daily Press, 3rd February.)

The reply of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government to the petition presented by the ladies of Hongkong in favour of a system of compulsory registration of domestic servants proved a great disappointment. We forebore comment at the time for more than one reason. On such a question it is better to bring to bear a calm and judicial mind rather than to give utterance to the first hasty expression of disgust or disappointment. That the ladies were indignant and disappointed may well be imagined. They had the best of reasons for believing that Mr. MAY, who as Captain Superintendent of Police was very anxious to see registration introduced, and as Colonial Secretary was equally in favour of the measure, would give the weight of his influence in favour of legislation in this direction, and were naturally taken aback by the uncompromising manner of the rejection of their petition. In His Excellency's reply, as conveyed by the Acting Colonial Secretary, no trace of sympathy with the petition is to be gathered, nor even the faintest indication that the receiver was at one time at any rate a warm advocate of registration. The Hon. A. M. THOMSON wrote:—"This question was very fully considered by the Government so recently as 1902, when, after the fullest investigation by the Commission referred to in the petition, it was decided not to legislate for the compulsory registration of servants, but instead to give wider powers for dealing with misconduct by the class of servants that formed the subject of the Commission. This was done by the enactment of Ordinance No. 2 of 1902, which was supplemented by Ordinance 45 of 1902, dealing with servants of all classes. I have therefore to express His Excellency's regret that he does not see his way to re-open a question which has been so recently decided." As Administrator, Mr. MAY very naturally feels it a difficult and delicate task to reverse the policy of the late Governor, and it was perhaps hardly fair to expect him to attempt it, especially after so short a trial of Sir HENRY BLAKE's specific. It is true that the legislation adopted by our late Governor was emasculated by his somewhat morbid fear of hurting the feelings of the servants, and that all the evils complained of remain as rampant as ever; if not actually accentuated by the failure to deal with them according to the dictates of common-sense. But Mr. MAY could hardly allege to the Secretary of State that a sufficient time had elapsed to prove this, even though aware that no trial of the remedy was either needed or could be useful. The exigencies of red tape have to be considered, and so rapid an attempt to reverse the acts of the late Governor by a *locum tenens* might not impossibly be regarded in Downing Street as savouring of presumption. As we have indicated, therefore, we are not disposed either to charge His Excellency with inconsistency or to believe it probable that his recent elevation would beget in him a change of views on such a question. Mr. MAY has for the moment been paying the penalties of greatness. He has been compelled to disappoint his admirers—we are confident he had the suffrages of all the fair sex in the Colony in favour of his elevation—and for the moment considerable soreness and irritation prevailed. Perhaps, had Mr. MAY given the matter more consideration, he might have found an opportunity for unofficially indicating the inadvisability of the

ladies addressing their petition to him whilst acting as Administrator, and deferring it until the new Governor—Sir MATTHEW NATHAN—had become firmly seated in the saddle. It is here, doubtless, where our popular Administrator has erred, and therein only from want of thought. It is never fair to expect too much from the acting official. His hands are very much tied, and however earnest his intentions, however energetic his actions, his limitations are necessarily pretty well defined. That Mr. MAY has the prosperity of the Colony and the well-being of its residents thoroughly at heart we are most confident, and, in spite of the limitations above referred to, we feel persuaded that his term of office will not pass without good work being accomplished and projects for its benefit initiated or completed.

THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

(Daily Press, 4th February.)

Until the community of Hongkong have some better evidence of the intention of the British and Chinese Corporation to push on with the construction of the Kowloon-Canton line than mere vague newspaper assurance, we fear they will continue to feel uneasy as to the future. The danger to which the Colony is exposed, and which has been repeatedly pointed out in these columns, of having its trade diverted into another channel, may not be so imminent as the Chairman of the National Bank of China seems to think, but it undoubtedly exists, and it will be reassuring to learn, from official sources, that arrangements have really been made to actually commence work on this line of railway. We do not care to know that the concessionaries are waking up, or that they are ashamed of inaction, or that they are hopeful of getting some subsidy, or that they expect to form a company, or even that they are thinking of making a fresh or final survey; we want to see some proof of actual work, or intention to work. It is not sufficient to be told that they are alive to the situation; they should have been alive years ago and ready to proceed with the enterprise for which they had been fortunate enough to secure the concession. We have good hopes that the British authorities are now on the alert, that the efforts of Sir HENRY BLAKE and Mr. F. H. MAY have been effective, and that Downing Street will not allow the matter to rest any longer. The China Association has also, we understand, taken up the question, and the Press both of this Colony and of London should see that the agitation shall go on until the first sod is cut, and thereafter watch with the liveliest interest the progress of the work. The public do not of course need to be told that railways cannot be built in a night, or that natural obstructions such as hills and rivers can be tunnelled or bridged in a few months. There are, however, such things as reasonable progress and long drawn-out delay. What we want to see is proper expedition, the best progress that good and energetic engineers and sufficient capital are capable of making. Anything short of this will be less than the Colony expects, and it will be entitled to grumble at any avoidable delay.

According to a Canton despatch, quoted by the N.-C. Daily News, H. E. Shum sent in his resignation to the Throne recently on the ground of chronic ill-health. The request was refused and H. E. has been given another month's respite from work, after which he is expected to leave Canton for Kwangsi to crush the rebellion in earnest.

HONGKONG AND THE FISCAL QUESTION.

(Daily Press 4th February.)

The *Kobe Chronicle* comments on the recent despatch by the Hongkong branch of the China Association of a telegram to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN with regard to his fiscal campaign. That telegram, it may be remembered, ran as follows:—"Large majority of members Hongkong Branch China Association warmly support your fiscal aims. Consider reciprocal treaties absolutely necessary, failing which recommend adoption retaliation." Now the Editor of our *Kobe* contemporary is a strong Free-trader, so that it could not be expected that he would approve of our China Association branch's attitude. With the manner in which he criticises it, however, we may be permitted to find fault. Speaking of the telegram above, he writes:—"This is remarkable indeed, seeing that it is generally admitted that Hongkong's position as one of the most important ports in the world is due to the fact that it is a free port. But perhaps the members of the China Association do not expect that any change will be made in the case of Hongkong, and therefore can contemplate with serenity the imposition of food taxes in England. At any rate, after this declaration of opinion, that particular branch of the China Association can no longer protest, as we believe it did not so very long ago, against the imposition of additional duties by China under the new Commercial Treaty. What is sauce for the goose, &c." What can our *Kobe* critic say when he reads that a five days' plebiscite of the Colony of Hongkong by 392 votes to 20 approved of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's policy, and that on the 18th January a telegram was sent to the late Colonial Secretary announcing this expression of opinion by the merchants, bankers, shipping representatives, and others in this Colony, all British subjects? Surely nothing more than he said in the passage which we have just quoted from the *Chronicle*. The writer suggests that Hongkong, in the expectation of remaining a free port, is serenely ready to see food-taxes imposed in England. He says the members of the China Association, but they only represent Hongkong opinion in this matter, as has been amply demonstrated. He goes on to say that our branch of the China Association has deprived itself of the right of protest in future against China imposing additional duties. But we have not got reciprocal treaties, we have not the chance of retaliation. It is precisely on the principle of "What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander" that we think we have a right to ask for them. Great Britain is the goose, and the sauce to which the goose is treated is protection and prohibitive tariffs of other countries. Protest is our only weapon at present, and a very poor weapon it is. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN proposes to put a better one in his country's hand, and it is for this reason Hongkong among others supports him. We stated on the 16th January last the case for Hongkong, to the best of our ability, and we venture to think that the views expressed are those of a great number of the voters who recorded their names in the late plebiscite. We admit that we trust that Hongkong will remain a free port and that foreigners will always retain their right to come here and trade as freely as now. But, as we wrote last month, we also hope that the British Government will be placed in a position to be able to grant British merchants and ships the advantages ungrudgingly accorded to those of foreign countries.

We see at present our shipping unfairly handicapped on the coast and on the Canton River by the large subsidies granted by foreign Governments to their countries' shipping, and we see our sugar kept out of the Indo-Chinese and Japanese markets by the restrictions there imposed, while British markets are free to the products of Indo-China and Japan. We, like the British trader in all parts of the world, want a *quid pro quo* for what we concede. Finally, if we may be allowed to quote ourselves, "foreign governments are not so foolish or so unreasonable as to quarrel with us because we at length have come to see that our fiscal methods are antiquated, absurd, and one-sided, and they will respect us the more when we ask for reciprocity in commerce. We do not fear competition, we have invited it, and we shall not go back on our ancient policy; but we do want that competition to be on even terms." It seems to us that Hongkong's contention is eminently reasonable, and certainly not deserving of the sneers even of the most ardent of Free-traders. In Hongkong, however short-sighted we might be, we are forced to see how British trade and shipping suffer from the bounties and tariffs of other nations. The glamour of Free Trade, as pictured by the old school of politicians, has long ceased to charm our eyes. We do not want to "build walls up" round the Island—to use the absurd catch-phrase—but we do want to be able to compete with outsiders on fair terms. In fact, we want to be protected. And that is why the local branch of the China Association and the British community of Hongkong in general have declared in favour of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S policy.

SIR HARRY PARKES AND HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 6th February)

We think there are few Englishmen in Hongkong, or for the matter of that in China, who will not most thoroughly endorse the remarks of our correspondent "L" with reference to the want of some record, in street nomenclature or otherwise, of the memories of Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK and Sir HARRY PARKES. The former was not so much identified with the Colony; but to the latter, who was undoubtedly the ablest and most vigorous representative Great Britain has ever sent to China, this Colony owes a large debt of gratitude. Sir HARRY PARKES, when Consul at Canton, was directly instrumental in procuring the cession of the Kowloon peninsula, to Britain. As a mere youth he was one of the first to scale the Peak, and later, upon his appointment as student-interpreter, he resided on the island for some time after its erection into a Colony. Again, when acting as British Commissioner at Canton during the Anglo-French occupation of that city, he was for some years in constant touch with the Colony. Yet there is not, either in Hongkong or in the Kowloon peninsula, any single trace of his close and intimate connection with the Colony during those historic periods except a bust in the hall of the Hongkong Club. As our correspondent points out, Shanghai has honoured his memory by erecting a fine statue in a prominent position, but Hongkong, which really benefited even more by his labours, has not even commemorated the fact by conferring his name on a street or road. It is, of course, never too late to perform an act of justice or of grace, and we think that the Colony would only be doing its duty tardily by now erecting a statue to the memory of this

dauntless and high-spirited diplomatist. In the conduct of his duty to his country Sir HARRY PARKES was always and equally undeterred by personal danger, the fear of official censure, or the hope of praise. In those days the resolute Consul or Minister was exposed to perils that our officials are strangers to in the present. Mr. PARKES was captured by the Chinese, and thrown into a filthy gaol, narrowly escaping with his life, during the Anglo-French War with China, and later, when Minister in Japan, nearly fell a victim to the assassin in the streets of Tokyo. During the whole of his eventful career Sir HARRY PARKES was continually striving to protect British interests, and it cannot be doubted that the stress of the contest told severely upon his somewhat delicate frame. He never allowed himself to grow weary in the strife, and was ever ready to stand up for the interests of his fellow countrymen. It is not fitting that such patriotic services, so freely rendered, should be allowed to slip from the attention or the knowledge of the coming generation. It is true that they are immortalised in the chronicles of British intercourse with the Far East, and form its brightest pages, but we should like every Briton who lands upon our shores to find this great founder of our fortunes here facing him in bronze or marble. In other words, a handsome statue of Sir HARRY PARKES should stand in a most conspicuous place, say in front of the chief landing place in Victoria or Kowloon. We believe there would be no difficulty whatever in collecting funds for the purpose, and if desired shall be glad to open a subscription for the purpose.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(Daily Press, 2nd February.)

In spite of rumours—it looks now as if they were more than rumours—of war, Hongkong is looking forward to the climax of its Season, which may be dignified now with a capital S. February is the month, socially, in this Colony, and the February of 1904 promises to be as lively as any of its predecessors. The festivities start off next Wednesday with the Government House Ball, and six nights later the Cricket Club dance at the City Hall follows. On the 13th inst., according to the re-arrangement of dates, the A.D.C. give their first performance of *His Excellency*, repeating it on the 17th and three following days. The Dallas Company open at the Theatre on the 22nd inst., and on the next day the Race Meeting, to many Hongkong's most enjoyable function of the year, starts, to conclude on the following Saturday, the off day. Other dances and some dinners are in the air, and no doubt before our wet season sets in we shall have managed to make the best of the present delightful weather.

The despatch of the Public Address to our late Governor, as well as the formal announcement to Sir Henry of the inauguration of the two scholarships which the Chinese community has founded to perpetuate his name in the Colony, serve to recall the way in which the names of previous Governors have become permanently associated with the Colony. In the street nomenclature of Hongkong we may trace the names of, I think I may say, all the Governors the Colony has had. We have Pottinger Street to perpetuate the name of our first Governor, Sir Henry Pottinger; next in order came Sir John Davis, and we have a Davis Street at Kennedy Town; then Sir G. S. Bonham, to whom Bonham Strand owes its name. Even Major-General Jervois, the Lieutenant-Governor who administered the affairs of the Colony in 1843, has been honoured by a Jervois Street. I suppose the name of Sir John Bowring suggested Bowrington, and the Lieut.-Governor of the early 'Fifties has his name perpetuated in Caine Road. Sir Hercules Robinson, who succeeded Sir John Bowring, also gave

his name to a road, and his Lieutenant, Mr. Mercer, has his preserved in the name of a subsidiary street. Macdonnell Road derives its name from Sir Richard MacDonnell. His successor, Sir Arthur Kennedy, gave his name to Kennedy Road.

The only Governor whose name is not perpetuated in the street nomenclature of the Colony is Sir John Pope Hennessy. Sir George Bowen, who succeeded him, is remembered by Bowen Road, and we have Des Vœux Road and Robinson Road to commemorate the services of Sir George Des Vœux and Sir William Robinson. The names of many of the gentlemen who for brief terms administered the Government have their names remembered in the same way, as in Austen Road and Barker Road but we have not yet a Wilson-Black Parade or a Gascoigne Avenue. Sir Henry Blake's name is perpetuated in Blake Pier, and in the scholarships which the Chinese Community have just founded I consider the Chinese have adopted a very sensible way of honouring the Governor whom they so highly esteemed, and it is a way that Sir Henry Blake will greatly appreciate. The education of the rising generation of Chinese in the Colony on Western lines is an object which all administrators of the Colony will be anxious to promote in every way, and the "Blake scholarships" will doubtless serve to stimulate that spirit of emulation in the schools which will lead to the best results.

It is not generally known, but is nevertheless a fact, that the military authorities are very busy just at present in improving and extending the fortifications of the island. A number of new guns have been put in position on the forts recently. It does not necessarily follow that these operations have a connection with the state of things up North. But it is hinted that during the tenure of office of the last General Commanding the progress which the War Office desired in this direction was not made. Apparently the new General is paying particular attention to the improvement of the island's defences.

The arid pages of the *Government Gazette* inform us weekly of the places that continue to enforce sanitary measures against Hongkong. It may not be generally known here that fifty-six successive days have now elapsed without the occurrence of a single plague case in Hongkong. But I must not forge the saying, *Unberufen und unbeschrieben!*

To refer again to the ever-recurring question of beachcombers in Hongkong, one often hears the query put, Where do they come from? At present there are from 30 to 40 in the Colony. That seems a lot, but an old resident tells me he remembers ten years ago there were some 200 "on the beach." The recent importations, with hardly any exception, come from Manila via the Fatsan Railway. They go up to the new line, get employment for a couple of weeks, and are then "fired out." Of course they drift Hongkong-wards, and there is no law to prevent them stepping off the Canton boats. Undesirables can be prevented from landing here from ocean-going steamers, but if they come by way of Canton it seems there is no preventive against their ingress. It is high time there was.

I notice in the Manila papers several paragraphs eulogising the climate of the Philippines at this season of the year, especially in their capital during the past two weeks. They say that a blanket is quite necessary at night, and the days are not too hot (significant "too")! What, then, would they say of the Hongkong climate, where three blankets are necessary to some at night, and the days are scarcely to be called even warm, even in their warmest hours, and heavy clothing comfortable? Truly the weather we have been enjoying the last few weeks is a great brace for the other seasons before us.

Yesterday was the 53rd anniversary of the declaration that the inhabitants of Hongkong were British subjects, although the island was taken possession of six days previously. It was not erected into a British Crown Colony, however, until April 1843. In 1841, by the

way, the Chinese had two batteries on Kowloon peninsula, according to the late Mr. Dennys, in his *Treaty Ports of China and Japan*. Those days seem truly remote from the present era of Taipo police administration and shooting expeditions in the New Territory.

BANYAN.

THE NORTHERN CRISIS.

(Daily Press, 29th January.)

The Japanese papers state that at a recent meeting of the bankers convened by the Minister of Finance at his official residence to discuss the financial bearing of a war with Russia, the Minister estimated that a war would cost Japan not less than four hundred million yen (about £40,000,000). It appears that arrangements have been made for the prompt issue of Exchequer bonds to the amount of 100,000,000 yen, should the occasion require it, and the opinion is expressed that the Banks of the Empire are in a position to supply that sum and more without difficulty.

The *Kobe Chronicle* of the 21st inst. has a scathing article on the way in which the censorship is being exercised over Press telegrams in Japan. It appears that whatever the censor objects to in a message he deletes, and the message is then forwarded to its destination in its emasculated form, without any intimation of the mutilation being given to the sender. It may be explained that Press messages are now forwarded from Japan on the "receiver-to-pay" system, and though the receiver would, of course, be charged only for the number of words he receives, it is conceivable that if the sender were informed that the censor had deleted essential portions of his message, he would, in the majority of cases, decide that the balance of the message was not worth the cost of transmission.

(Daily Press, 2nd February.)

In the midst of anticipations of the gloomiest kind, Hongkong still continues with little definite news. The Japanese Consul had not, up to yesterday, heard that war had broken out. As far as he knew, Japan was still waiting for Russia's reply, which would decide the matter one way or the other. It is understood that a telegram has been received by Chinese to the effect that war has broken out, but this, perhaps (most likely, in fact), is from Chinese elsewhere who, thinking peace at this stage impossible, were previous in their announcement. Several telegrams are understood to have been received by various parties, all to the effect that war is expected. But that is not new.

The Russian s.s. *Manchuria*, which arrived from St. Petersburg on Sunday, left for Port Arthur yesterday afternoon. She has 50 tons of explosives and 1,300 tons of general cargo on board. The Russian s.s. *Eduard Bay*, which arrived from Odessa on Sunday, with 4,500 tons of cargo for the north, has not yet cleared.

Various items of news in connection with the crisis are contained in the most recent issue of the *N.-C. Daily News*. It appears that eighty Russian soldiers arrived at Koupangtze station on the 22nd ult. from Hsinmintun. Koupangtze is the junction of the Hsinmintun and Shanhaikwan-Newchwang lines. Russia is likely to reoccupy the Chinese railway outside the Great Wall in the event of hostilities, and is laying new lines of telegraph from Tatungkou, on the Yalu, in the direction of Moukden, and between Moukden and Lungchow, a place on the high road from the Yalu to Liaoyang, from which it is about 30 miles distant.

Japan is also paying attention to railways. On the 25th ult. an Imperial ordinance was published in the *Official Gazette* at Tokyo with reference to the military employment of the private railways. It specifies the facilities required, and the tariff to be observed for the use of these railways for military transportation.

It is stated that in the event of war the Chinese Eastern Railway Co.'s steamers will be withdrawn from the Dalny-Nagasaki and Dalny-Shanghai routes. It is contemplated to put the two passenger steamers *Manchuria* and *Mongolia* under the Red Cross flag, and use them as hospital ships, for which they are admirably adapted; but the *Manchuria* is in dock at Nagasaki, her engines having been taken out in order to strengthen their bed.

Chefoo reports that every steamer leaving Port Arthur has to be towed out by a tug and to carry a special pilot, so that in the event of anything happening to her she can be towed out of the channel before she sinks, and so the entrance will be kept clear.

The first meeting of the Supreme Military Council of Japan was held in the Palace at Tokyo on the 25th ult. Later in the day, Counts Matsukata and Inouye, former Ministers of Finance, and Baron Sone, the present Minister, were received in audience by the Emperor, who asked their co-operation regarding the important financial programme which is to deal with the present contingency. Next day the principal Ministers and the Elder Statesmen met at Count Katsura's residence to arrange the programme.

At Seoul, despite the trickery of Russia, a wind favourable to Japan is now reported to be blowing, the Korean statesmen feeling confidence in Japan's sincerity.

The *Kobe Chronicle* of the 22nd ult. thinks that, if Russia still refuses to accept the demands made by Japan, and if for the time being relations are broken off, the natural consequence will then be, not an attack by Japan upon Russia either on land or sea, but the resort by Japan to those measures for safeguarding her interests of the nature of which she has already informed Russia. That is to say, Japan will send her troops into Corea, declare some sort of a protectorate, and set to work to erect the peninsula into a bulwark against the further southward advance of Russia. Our contemporary believes that Russia would offer no active opposition to such action. She may make it the subject of protest to Japan and the other Powers, but in the end the Russian Government would virtually acquiesce, for the present at any rate, in measures that might even be regarded with secret approval as giving her a certain right to remain in Manchuria. It is by no means improbable that Japan having resolutely taken the matter into her own hands, Russia will withdraw her agents and remove her works from Northern Corea at the Japanese demand, thus acknowledging the Yalu as the real boundary between a Manchuria dominated by Russia and a Corea dominated by Japan. There seems to be no probability that Japan will attempt the tremendous task of attempting to drive Russia from Manchuria.

(Daily Press, 3rd February.)

Local news was scanty again yesterday. The recall of the transport *Dilwara*, first made public in our Singapore telegram in yesterday's issue, was confirmed in service circles, but no definite explanation of the move was forthcoming. It is also known that the H.K.V.C. is ordered to be in readiness for any eventuality.

It will be seen, from the telegram in another column, that the two new Japanese cruisers *Kasuga* and *Nisshin* have arrived at Singapore and after coaling yesterday were to sail at once for the North. On the 28th ult. the Tokyo Municipal Assembly resolved unanimously to take charge of the financial arrangements for the proposed entertainment to welcome the crews of the *Kasuga* and *Nisshin*.

Not counting two vessels from up river, the steamers *Mee Foo* and *Hangsang*, there was only one arrival at Hongkong up to date in the afternoon yesterday. The solitary steamer was the *Holstein*, and she arrived at one o'clock in the morning. Her last port was Tourane; and the cargo consisted of coal, mostly for the north. Such slackness in shipping is a record for Hongkong. Many connected with the harbour, say, in all their experiences, they have never known such a thing before. The absence of so many Japanese steamers, of course, makes a great difference to the port. The withdrawal of the Japanese Hongkong-Manila, Japan-Europe, Hongkong-San Francisco and Japan-Australia liners naturally makes a great difference; besides this, too, many non-Japanese steamers have been chartered to replace Government hired Japanese vessels on runs foreign to Hongkong, while several other foreign vessels, again, have been bought up by Japanese. The war-scare has long affected shipping and commerce practically all the world over, but such a marked change at Hongkong is significant. The freight market, moreover, has taken a remarkable change, freight, from Bangkok to Hongkong, jumping from 13 cents per picul

to 20 cents per picul in, comparatively speaking, a few hours; it is said that as much as 25 cents per picul has been paid in one instance. As soon as the vessels arrive from Bangkok unusual activity is to be observed: the rice bags being turned over and re-marked "Japan." Another significant feature, too, is a strong demand for time charters; shipping, indeed, has taken a turn for the better all round, there being no difficulty in securing good freights either for voyage or otherwise. There is a rumour that, as soon as the Russian steamers *Eduard Bay* and *Manchuria*, the latter with fifty tons of explosives on board, left Hongkong for Port Arthur, a telegram was received to hold them back.

The Tokyo correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* reported on the 27th ult. that the flotation of exchequer bonds and the enhancement of various taxes were imminent. The Imperial Household has decided to subscribe to the forthcoming exchequer bonds.

The same correspondent says that a number of Belgians, Russians, and French at Seoul have formed a secret society in communication with some of the higher Korean officials. The recent declaration of neutrality is an outcome of this.

Under the heading of "Providing the Funds" the *N.-C. Daily News* published this telegram dated Tokyo, 28th January:—The Premier and the Ministers of Finance, Foreign Affairs, War, and the Navy are giving dinners to-day and to-morrow to prominent bankers and financiers throughout the country.

Yuan Shi-kai and General Ma have been ordered to mass troops on both sides of Shanhaikwan, it being reported that Russia is planning the seizure of the Hsinmintun-Shanhaikwan line, so as to open the way to Peking.

(Daily Press, 4th February.)

In spite of the absence of any fresh news in the early part of yesterday, the war, whether impending or not, was the main topic of conversation in the Colony yesterday. Fuel was added to the flames by the fact that three local residents engaged in journalistic work were stated either to have left or to be leaving at once for the North in the capacity of war correspondents. As a matter of fact, one did actually leave on the s.s. *Empire*—Mr. W. H. Donald, sub-editor, *China Mail*. It may be remarked that, if there is to be war, correspondents cannot expect the facilities of previous campaigns in China. The Russians are not allowing any foreign correspondents to attend their forces military or naval, and it can hardly be anticipated that Japan will welcome the crowd of writers anxious to watch and describe her movements.

It is now stated that the transport *Dilwara* will not herself return to Hongkong, but will continue homeward with the women, children, and invalids. The troops and officers on board, however, will come back to Hongkong at once. It is expected that our garrison in the North will be strengthened immediately in event of war breaking out; hence it is necessary to have a surplus in Hongkong to avoid a large depletion of the local garrison.

(Daily Press, 6th February.)

In Naval circles in Hongkong it is reported that considerable activity has been evinced during the past few days. The *Ocean* and the *Vengeance* are both heavily provisioned with war rations and are expected to sail this morning, ostensibly for Mirs Bay, but more probably for the same destination for which the cruisers of the British squadron have already departed. The sloop *Vestal* is also ready for sea, with war provisions and munitions on board. To-morrow 50 Sherwood Foresters are due to sail by the s.s. *Borneo*.

Among the arrivals by the *Seydlitz* yesterday morning was Major Baker-Brown, R.E., who only left Hongkong on the 21st ult. homeward bound on the *Dilwara*, his term of duty having expired. He has been recalled to duty—a fact which is significant.

According to Japanese papers, the *Nisshin* and *Kasuga* were expected to arrive at Yokosuka on the 10th inst. Our contemporaries do not seem to have allowed much time for the distance between Singapore and Japan.

The *N.-C. Daily News* publishes a special telegram dated Tokyo, 30th January, to the following effect:—The Russian reply is expected here in four or five days. The exchequer bonds to be floated immediately amount to a hundred million yen (£10,000,000) issued at 95, with 5 per cent. interest, repayable at par in five years, while various taxes are to be enhanced to the extent of fifty million yen. Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, Count Katsuma, Baron Komura, and Vice-Admiral Baron Yamamoto had a prolonged conference to-day.

BALL AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

On the 3rd inst. Government House was the scene of a Ball given by H.E. Mr. M. Y. C.M.G. the Officer Administering the Colony, and Mrs. May. At 9.30 p.m. the host and hostess began to receive their visitors, and from that time onward a steady stream continued to arrive. Dancing commenced at 9.45 o'clock, there being one Extra before the regular programme. The latter was as follows:—

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|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Valse. | 8. Valse. |
| 2. Valse. | 9. Valse. |
| 3. Lancers. | 10. Two-Step. |
| 4. Polka. | 11. Lancers. |
| 5. Two-Step. | 12. Valse. |
| 6. Valse. | 13. Valse. |
| 7. Caledonians | 14. Galop. |

The Band was that of H.M.S. *Glory*.

The floral decorations, very beautiful indeed, were supervised by Mr. Tatcher, of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, and the bunting and lantern decorations were supervised by Mr. Tooker, of the P.W.D., assisted by Mr. Master, of the P.W.D. In each instance the work was done by bluejackets. Both front and back of Government House showed a profusion of Japanese lanterns in the grounds; internally, a better effect could not have possibly been attained. There were no seats in the ball room, every inch of space being required for the large attendance; the greatest comfort, however, was available on the bunting-enclosed verandah. Card-rooms were all that could be desired, and in the supper-room tables were tastefully decorated with roses and ferns. The staircase leading from the ball-room to the latter mentioned places was particularly attractive.

Those invited were the captains and officers of every warship in harbour, both British and otherwise, the colonels and officers of every corps at Hongkong, and the following residents:—Hon. Dr. and Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. J. M. and Miss Armstrong, Mr. H. Armstrong, Mr. Hugh Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. D. Auld, Mrs. and Miss Arnold, Miss Austen, Mr. William Armstrong, Capt. and Mrs. Burke, Sir H. Lady, and the Misses Berkeley, Col. L. F. Brown, Mr. C. L. Bland, Dr. B. B. J. Barnett, Capt. and Mrs. Boyd, Mr. A. Bodad, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Birdwood, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Brewin, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. J. Dyer Ball, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Bryan, Mr. C. E. H. Beavis, Mr. R. J. Birbeck, Dr. and Mrs. Bell, Miss Barker, Mr. and Mrs. Bowdler, Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar, Mr. J. A. R. Brazier, Major and Mrs. Bunay, Mrs. W. Bateman, Miss W. Bateman, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Murray Bain, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Browne, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Beck, Mr. Alfred Bryer, Gen. and Mrs. Bragg, Mr. and Miss Bird, Mr. J. H. W. Becke, Mr. F. B. Bowley, Mr. J. F. Boulton, Rev. W. and Mrs. Bridie, Mr. Hart Buck, Mrs. Wesley Brown, Mr. A. Bavington, Mr. G. Blood, Mr. N. S. Brown, Major and Mrs. Benson, Major and Mrs. Bryan, Miss W. and Miss A. M. Bateman, Mr. J. D. Butterworth, Mr. and Mrs. Boggan, Mr. John Barton, Mr. L. H. Beamon, Capt. and Mrs. Britten, Miss Blair, Mr. G. Hall Brutton, Mr. R. E. O. Bird, Mr. P. Belli, Mr. and Mrs. Boloyvoskey, Rev. G. A. and Mrs. Bunbury, Mr. W. C. Barrett, Mr. and Mrs. Monteith Black, Miss Barr, Mr. B. S. Browne, Mr. N. W. Benton, Miss Bachelor, Mr. C. H. Blason, Admiral Sir Cyprian Bridge, Commander-in-Chief of the China Station, Capt. O. de B. Brock, Rt. Rev. C. H. Brent, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Barretto, Mr. A. E. Blanco, Mr. Edgar A. Bonner, Miss Crown, Hon. W. Chatham, Mr. Chong Sze Kai, Mr. Chau Siu Ki, Mr. T. P. Cochran, Mr. E. A. Carvalho, Major and Mrs. Chapman, Major and Mrs. Chichester, Mr. W. G.

Clarke, Mr. A. H. Crook, Mr. C. Clementi, Mr. R. H. Crofton, Mr. Chan Pan Po, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Craddock, Miss Carden, Mr. C. Paul Chater, Cap. and Mrs. Crichton, Mr. and Mrs. R. Chapman, Miss E. S. Cooke, Major and Mrs. Caulfield, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Campbell, H.B.M. Consulate at Canton, Mr. and Mrs. de Champaux, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Caldwell, Mr. Alec Cousland, Mr. Alfred Cunningham, Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Lieut. and Mrs. Crauford, Mr. E. W. Carpenter, Mr. R. Cooke, Mr. James H. Cose, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Cocker, Mrs. rowlie, Mr. Chin Yon Chin, Mr. Chan Wing Tu, Mr. Chan Wa, Mr. Charles Colson, C.B., the Bishop of Caledonia (British Columbia), Mr. Chu Keng Wan, Mr. Chan Pin Kai, Mr. Chan U Teng, Mr. Chim Cham Sam, Mr. Chan Wok-ne, Mrs. A. R. and Miss Cowden, Mr. H. F. Chard, Mr. and Mrs. A. Denison, Mr. J. Davidson, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Dickson, Surgeon L. E. Dartnell, Mr. E. E. Deacon, Commander and Mrs. Daws, Capt. and Mrs. P. G. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Drayson, Mr. and Mrs. S. T. Dunn, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Trenchard Davies, Deputy-Inspector-General and Mrs. Drew, Mr. F. B. Deacon, Miss Dewar, Mr. and Mrs. Hayer Droeze, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Danby, Mr. Victor Deacon, Mr. James D. Danby, Miss Beryl Deane, Miss G. Deacon, Miss Dobrock, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Dixon, Mr. J. T. Dixon, Mr. Arthur J. Darby, Mr. J. S. Duff, Mr. W. Davies, Mr. T. Harwood Darton, Mr. J. T. Davies, Dr. and Mrs. Dobrock, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ellis, Miss Eyre, Mr. G. H. Edwards, Mr. H. Figg, Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Figg, Miss Franklin, Capt. and Mrs. Fitzwilliams, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Forbes, Col. and Mrs. Ferrier, Major G. A. French, Mr. R. Finch, Mr. H. G. Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Fraser, Mr. G. F. M. Fletcher, Rev. J. H. and Mrs. France, Mr. and Mrs. Fullerton, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Fuchs, Capt. and Mrs. Foote, Mr. R. Fuhrmann, Mr. Fung Sui Teung, Mr. Fung Teung Tak, Mrs. and Miss H. S. Fletcher, Mr. Arthur Franklin, M. le Vicomte Maximilien Foy, Sir W. Lady, and the Misses Goodman, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Gompertz, Mr. J. Gosman, Mr. A. W. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Grist, Mr. and Mrs. E. Goetz, Mr. and Mrs. F. Goddard, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. J. Gedge, Miss Gorham, Miss Gourley, Mr. L. Gibbs, Dr. and Mrs. Maclean Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. G. Graham, Mr. T. C. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. F. Gros, Miss Golding, Miss F. Gray, Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. C. Grace, Mr. Alice Gibree, Mr. and Mrs. Warburton Grey, Mr. Philip Goldring, Dr. Robert Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Grimbly, Miss Gresson, Dr. Otto Gumprecht, Mr. A. P. Gutierrez, Miss Gaspar, Mr. A. E. Griffin, Mr. J. R. Gillingham, Mr. T. F. Hough, Mr. J. Scott, Rev. E. J. and Mrs. Hardy, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred and Miss Hancock, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., Mr. and Mrs. G. Harling, (Vice-Consul for Sweden and Norway), Mr. Thomas Hamman, Mr. T. A. Hammer, Mr. T. W. Hornby, Mr. F. Paget Hett, Mr. A. H. Hollingsworth, Mr. and Mrs. Ho Fook, Mr. Ho Kam Tong, Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Hickling, Mr. C. C. and Miss Hickling, Mr. and Mrs. Shilton Hooper, Mr. C. A. and Mrs. Hewett, Mr. and Mrs. Ho Tung, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hinds, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Humphreys, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Humphreys, Mr. Sidney Hancock, Miss Homan, Mrs. and Miss Hazeland, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hastings, Mr. Henry Hancock, Rt. Rev. Bishop and Mrs. Hoare, Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Harker, Mr. John Hays, Mr. and Miss Hunter, Mr. H. K. and Miss Holmes, Major-Gen. Villiers Hatton, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Hughes, Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Capt. Hollingshead, Mr. B. Hursthouse, Miss Hawker, Mr. and Mrs. O. von der Heyde, Mrs. Hooper, Commander and Mrs. Hardy, Mr. Cyril G. A. Hance, Mr. Julian H. R. Hance, Mrs. C. P. and Miss Hance, Mr. P. H. Holyoak, Mr. W. H. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Hale, Mr. G. L. Houston, Mr. Richard Hancock, Mr. T. G. Hamilton, Mr. H. Hobbs, U.S. Vice-Consul, Miss Houlder, Miss Hamper, Miss Hollis, Mr. A. A. G. Hall, Dr. and Mrs. William Hunter, Mr. H. Hursthouse, Commander and Mrs. Harris (U.S.N.) Capt. and Mrs. M. R. Hurly, Mrs. Sundry Harvey, Mr. A. C. Holborow, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Hodgins, Mr. Armin Haupt, Consul for Denmark, Miss Innes, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Irwing, Rev. R.

Ively, Mr. Ip. Yun Chang, Mr. Alleyne Ireland, Rev. P. Jenkins, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. M. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jones, Mr. H. T. Jackman, Mr. and Mrs. B. James, Rev. F. T. Johnson, Mr. D. Jaffe, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Jones, Miss. Johnstone, Mr. John Johnstone, Dr. G. P. Jordan, Mr. R. F. Johnston, Mr. Philip J. meson, Brother Joshua (St. Joseph's College), Mrs. and Miss Johnstone, Mr. J. Johnstone, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jones, Dr. Keyt, Dr. and Mrs. Kock, Mr. and Mrs. Kadoorie, Mr. J. Kemp, Mr. Kang Yu Wei, Miss Kirkwood, Mr. W. A. R. Knight, Pastor and Mrs. Kriele, Mr. Kwok Tai Hing, Mr. Robert King, Mr. Henry Keswick, Mr. Paul Knyvett, Mr. Kwok Yik Me, Mr. Kwok Yik Wan, Lieut.-Col. F. E. and Mrs. Kent, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Kraft, Dr. F. Krüger, German Consul, Mr. W. Lumsden, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. B. Layton, Mr. Li Pak, M. and Mme. Gaston Liebert, Dr. and Mrs. Ronald Laing, Capt. and Mrs. F. W. Lyons, Mr. Li Sam Hin, Mr. Lau Yan Chuen, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Leiria, Vice-Consul for Portugal, Lieut. and Mrs. F. W. Lamballe, Mr. J. H. Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Leigh, Miss Lovell, Mrs. G. R. Lammert, Mr. Lau Chu Yam, Mr. H. W. Looker, Mr. Leung Pin Chi, Mr. Yeung Kwai Chan, Mr. Leung Kin On, Mr. E. J. Libeaud, Mrs. Libeaud, Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lammert, Surg. and Mrs. Lumley, Mr. D. R. Law, Commander and Mrs. Vaughan-Lewes, Mr. Lo Cheung Shiu, Mr. W. J. Lee, Mr. and the Misses Loureiro, Mr. Lam Wang Sai, Mr. Li Hing, Mr. Li Kwai Sam, Mr. Leung Leung Cheung, Mr. Li Hop Lam, Mr. Lan Hok Ting, Mr. Lan Kwok Teung, Mr. Li Cho Yam, Mr. Lan Kwok Wa, Mr. Li Tin Wing, Miss Lysh, Rev. Michael Longridge, Mr. Lung Ping Nam, Mr. Lo Cheuk Wai, Mr. Luk Sai Cho, Mr. Lung Yam Chik, Miss Lee, Mr. C. Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Moxon, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Chester Master, Mr. A. G. Morris, Dr. and Mrs. Harold Macfarlane, Mr. Carl Michelan, Mr. T. A. Macintyre, Sister McCarrie, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Marty (Consul for Spain), Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. E. Marty, Mr. C. Merrer, Mr. E. Muella, Miss Macpherson, Miss Mocatta, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Murray, Mr. and the Misses Morris, Mr. L. Murphy, Mr. W. Melchers, Mr. and Mrs. F. Maitland, Mr. and Mrs. McIsaac, Mr. Newman Mumford, Mr. C. W. May, Rev. Fr. Browne-Mostyn, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew More, Dr. Oswald Marriot, Mr. H. M. S. Alan, Capt. and Mrs. McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Murphy, Mr. R. Martin, Mr. F. Maitland, Capt. R. Mitchell, H.K.V.C., Mr. and Mrs. Mackinnon, H. M. Vice-Consul at Canton, Mr. and Mrs. James Macdonald, Surgeon James and Mrs. Mowat, Mr. P. Miller, Capt. D. Macdonald, H.K.V.C., Mr. F. L. Morgan, Mr. Ma Fat Teng, Capt. Marshall, C. P. R. s.s. *Empress of India*, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Michael, Mr. and Mrs. E. Niedhardt, Surgeon and Mrs. Norris, Mr. and Mrs. M. Northcote, Mr. H. C. Nicolle, Mr. William Nicholson, Eng.-Capt. C. J. North, Mr. and Mrs. Norton, Mr. Masaicho Noma, Consul for Japan, Mr. W. G. Newland, Dr. G. W. Noble, Fr. Francisco R. Noval, Ng Man Ku, Mr. and Mrs. H. Ough, Major and Mrs. Ormiston, Mr. and Mrs. Evan Ormiston, Mr. Owen Ordish, Mr. Owen, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Ollis, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. L. Oliver, Mr. J. Orange, Rt. Rev. Bishop Piazzoli, Dr. W. W. Pearce, Mr. R. E. N. Paddfield, Mr. John Plummer, Major and Mrs. Pratt, Lieut. B. A. and Mrs. Preston, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pearce, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Playfair, Mr. P. C. Pott, Mr. and Mrs. H. Pinckney, Major and Mrs. Pritchard, Capt. and Mrs. Lionel Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Powell, Mr. Donald Piper, Mr. John Paterson, Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Pemberton, Mr. and Mrs. W. Parlano, Mr. G. and Mrs. Piercy, Mr. E. V. D. Parr, Rev. W. J. L. Phillips, Staff Surgeon Parker, Mr. F. Perry, Mr. Pun Wei Yau, Mr. Pun Yan Cheung, Miss Pitts, Mr. W. Hutton Potts, Hon. H. Pollock, K.C., Rt. Rev. the Bishop of the Philippine Islands, Rear-Admiral and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Romano, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Richards, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Rennie, Mr. N. H. Rutherford, Mr. W. R. Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. Rogge, Mr. E. A. Ram, Mr. E. W. Rutter, Mr. E. Robinson, Mr. A. B. Rouse, Miss Renwick, Mr. and Mrs. F.

A NEW FRENCH CANTON STEAMER.

TRIAL TRIP.

The new French steamer for the Canton run, the *Paul Beau*, ran a trial trip in the Harbour on the 3rd inst. There were many guests on board. Among those present were Captain Tranguel, Mr. J. Trevoux, Mr. Bazin, Mr. J. Landolt, Mr. Godineau, Mr. Housset, Mr. Beringdoague, Captain L. Sauvage, Mr. G. de Champeaux, Mr. J. Macdonald, Mr. W. A. Crake, Mr. W. C. Jack, Mr. J. Hamman, Mr. B. A. Hale, Mr. Muelle, Mr. H. T. Richardson, Captain W. A. Robinson, and Mr. F. H. Carmichael. The steamer went out on a run to the west of the Harbour and attained a very satisfactory speed. Tiffin was served aboard. The menu was as follows:—

Hors d'œuvres
Beurre. Radis.
Saucisson de Lyon.

PLATS.
Sole Normandie.
Perdre au Chou.
Veau Bourgeoise.
Caille à la Turc.
Asperges en branches.
Rumsteack.
Pommes Lorette.

ENTREMETS.
Eclair à la Chantilly.
Café. Thé.

Captain LE SAUVAGE, in the name of the Compagnie Française de Navigation de Canton, congratulated Mr. Trevoux on having had the honour of constructing the *Paul Beau* and Mr. Jack and Mr. Wilks on the skill which they had brought to bear on the construction of the ship. Mr. Trevoux, he thought, was able to meet all competition and to carry the French flag into the heart of China. In France, the maritime world had acclaimed the inception of this new company and admired the thoughtfulness which induced the Government of Indo-China to adopt the measures which were destined to encourage Mr. Trevoux in the creation of a regular French line of navigation between Hongkong and Canton. The French maritime world had followed with interest the difficult voyage which the *Paul Beau* had made from Europe, and the successful results of this venture conferred great honour on his distinguished confrère commanding, Captain Frangeul. All those interested in naval affairs in France, he was certain, were desirous of the success of the Compagnie Cantonnaise, of which the able and distinguished director was M. Trevoux. He wished him and his company the good wishes of all present and raised his glass to Mr. Trevoux and the captain of the *Paul Beau*, and drank to the prosperity of the Messageries Cantonnaises.

M. Trevoux complimented Captain Frangeul and Captain Le Sauvage for the ability they had displayed in bringing the vessel out from France, and thanked Captain Le Sauvage for the good wishes he had expressed for the success of the company of which he was the manager, and he asked all those present to join with him in drinking the toast to these two officers and the visitors present, and the Press. This toast was heartily drunk.

Captain Frangeul in replying, thanked M. Trevoux for his kindly expressions, and said he had only done his duty, and drank to the success of the firm which M. Trevoux represented, and to the future success of the Messageries Cantonnaises, on whose behalf he was determined to do his best to promote that success. He trusted that the *Paul Beau* would be the means of carrying the French flag into the Chinese Empire. (Applause).

Mr. G. Mannington replied in a very happy speech in French for the Press. The formal proceedings then terminated.

The new river steamer *Paul Beau*, built to the order of Monsieur J. Trevoux of Canton, by the Compagnie Française de Construction Navale at Nantes, is a steel twin screw steamer built to the highest class in the Bureau Veritas, her principal dimensions being as follows:—Length, 228 feet, beam, 38 feet, draft (loaded), 8 feet 6 inches, with a total displacement of 1250 tons and 1200 indicated horse power. The engines are of the tri-compound type, having cylinders 13½, 21½, and 36in. with a stroke of 21½in. The boilers are of the

celebrated Niclausse water tube type, two in number, each capable of developing 750 h. p., so that the vessel can attain a speed of 10 knots with one boiler. The speed at full power on the measured distance was 12½ knots. These boilers have given the greatest satisfaction on the passage out both from an economical point of view, and from the facility with which they are fired. Messrs J. & A. Niclausse have fitted their boilers in the vessels of the principal navies of the world, and as the result of trials in H.M.S. gunboat *Seagull* it has now been decided by the Admiralty to have them fitted to the new 1st-class armoured cruisers of the *Monmouth* type. Many merchant vessels in France are now fitted with this generator, which promises to take the lead in water-tube boilers. The saloon and cabins of the *Paul Beau* have been fitted out in every way with a view to the comfort of passengers. The smoke-room is a cosy and airy compartment. The dining saloon which can seat 24 persons is neatly fitted out in light oak and upholstered in light hair cloth. There are seven first class cabins with iron beds and spring mattresses, the lady or family cabin having bath and lavatory attached. Electric lights and fans are installed throughout. There are also a range of second class cabins, comfortable and airy, whilst the accommodation provided for the first class Chinese is all that can be desired. On the main deck special accommodation has been provided for native women passengers and a special installation consisting of iron tanks with water circulation is fitted for the fish traffic from Canton. A commodious galley with the most modern French culinary appliances and presided over by a French chef gives promise of good living on Monsieur Trevoux's steamers. The vessel is under the command of Captain Frangeul, who brought her out from Nantes. The plans and specifications were prepared by Messrs E. C. Wilks & Co., and the vessel constructed under the personal superintendence of Mr. E. C. Wilks, consulting engineer, of this Colony. Mr. Trevoux, the owner, is to be complimented on his addition to the already large fleet of Canton steamers.

MR. W. FREEAR AT THE THEATRE.

The audience that turned out to witness Mr. Willie Freear's Frivolities completely filled the Theatre Royal, on the 30th ult. Mr. Freear's performance was well worthy of the reputation he has gained as an entertainer all over the world. As an impersonator he has few equals as regards versatility and cleverness. He kept his audience in a ripple of laughter all the time he occupied the stage. The programme opened with "Freear as the Christy Minstrels," a most amusing sketch, which got him on the best of terms with the audience for the whole of the evening. Considering that he alone was "putting up" the entertainment, Mr. Freear deserves every praise for the way he kept the house amused. He is one of the best comedians ever seen in Hongkong. In the opening sketch he gave a negro song, "The Darkies' Jubilee," concerted medley, "The Order of the Moon," introducing an instrument of his own, "the Toot." Then he appeared as a Frenchman; as a London costermonger; as an Irishman; and as a coon (with love song and dance), all the songs being written and composed by himself. Perhaps the most successful item was Mr. Freear's appearance as Minnie Palmer in her song and dance, "I'm so shy," which fairly brought down the house. He also introduced, among other things, "Reminiscences of an Evening Party," introducing "The Village Blacksmith" (as sung by an actor), "The Charge of the Light Brigade" (in dialect), "The Alphabetical Temperance Lecture," "The Irish Policeman." The performance concluded with an impersonation of "Madam Oyster Patti in an upper attic selection." During the evening there was a bioscope exhibition by M. Rehemanjee.

To-night Mr. Freear will put on a fresh programme. H. E. the Officer Administering the Government will be present.

The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Commissioner of Weihaiwei, accompanied by Mrs. Lockhart, arrived in Shanghai on the 29th ult. by the C. N. s.s. *Shengking*.

O. Ramsey, Mr. C. H. Ross, Paymaster and Mrs. Roome, Mr. G. A. Richardson, Dr. Alex. Rennie, Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. Lewis Rees, Mr. E. Ralphs, Mr. C. C. Rutledge, Mr. W. W. G. Ross, Mr. Remedios, Miss Reed, Mr. H. Logan Russell, Miss Ella Rowe, Hon. Gershom Stewart, Mr. Murray Stewart, Mr. Sercombe Smith, Mr. and Mrs. A. and Miss Seth, Mr. and Mrs. M. Stephens, Dr. and Mrs. Swan, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Schubart, Capt., Mrs., and Miss Stevens, Mr. W. R. Seymour, Mr. C. R. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Slade, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. M. A. and Miss Siebs, Mr. H. A. Siebs, Mr. Berno, Mr. Bruce Shepherd, Mr. and Mrs. W. Saunders, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Schellbass, Mr. and Mrs. E. Hamilton Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Story, Capt. and Mrs. W. G. Simpson, Capt. and Mrs. Sayer, Dr. and Mrs. Stedman, Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Southam, Mr. P. W. Sergeant, Miss Stollard, Miss E. Schafer, Mr. J. R. M. Smith, Mr. Geo. Sommerville, Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Simmers, Mr. N. T. Stabb, Mr. H. Shallard, Major and Mrs. Strickland, Capt. and Mrs. Leslie Stuart, Mr. R. P. Sharp, Miss Skipton, Capt. and Mrs. Stokes, Mr. Brooke Smith, Mr. G. Morton, Mr. O. Struckmeyer, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Skinner, Mr. Findlay Smith, Mr. J. M. Place Silva, Capt. Skinner, H.K.V.R., Mr. Sin Kwok Yeung, Mr. A. G. Hamilton Smythe, Mr. Yates Stirling, Mrs. Yates Stirling, Miss Helen Stirling, Miss Margaret Stirling, Mr. R. T. D. Sayle, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schlumberger, Mr. D. V. Steavenson, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Schroter, Miss Squire, Mr. and Mrs. H. Tooer, Mr. Tong Tai Chuen, Mr. and Mrs. Basil Taylor, Mr. Bertram Tanner, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Tomes, Mr. R. S. T. Trimmingham, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Turner, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Tatcher, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Taylor, Mr. William Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Townshend, Capt. and Mrs. Tulloch, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Tomkins, Mr. A. Tyack, Mr. W. C. D. Turner, Mr. C. H. Thomson, Mr. Tung May Mark, Mr. R. P. D. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Tilden, Fr. Evaristo Torres, Mr. S. W. Teo, Mr. Tseung Tse Kai, Mr. Tang Ming Teing, Mr. Tong Yu Shing, Mr. Tang Ting Fong, Mr. Ten Wai Sun, Mr. O. Thompson, Mr. J. W. Trethewy, Mr. Un Tai Chuen, Mr. U Hoi Chau, Mr. N. Wai Keng, Mr. Un Min Tau, Mr. Veitch, Mr. H. S. Vaughan, Consul and Mme. Volpicelli, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon, H. H. Judge A. Wise, Colonel and Mrs. Webb, Dr. and Mrs. G. A. Bateson Wright, Mr. Wei Yuk, Mr. Wei Long Sham, Mr. Wei Wah Teen, Mr. Wei On, Mr. F. C. Wolfe, Mr. J. R. Wood, Mr. P. Wodehouse, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Woodcock, Mr. J. Whittall, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Walker, Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Mr. A. G. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Woodward, Col. Mrs. and Miss Wylly, Mr. Arthur E. Wright, Eng.-Lieut. and Mrs. Lewis Wall, Mr. Arthur J. Williams, Dr. and Mrs. Hall Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Watson, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wright, Mr. R. A. Whitmore, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Wright, Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, Lieut. and Mrs. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. James H. White, Rev. Thomas Wright, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Wendt, Mr. F. W. Warre, Mr. Arthur G. Ward, Mr. H. Percy White, Mr. Wang Kam Fuk, Mr. Wei Wing Hung, Mr. J. Wacker, Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, Mr. Wai Ting Pan, Mr. Wai Ting Teun, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. W. Walker, Mr. S. T. Wenborne, Mr. Wong Tai Chun, Mr. Wong Pik Shan, Mr. Xavier, and Mr. Yeung Po Wa.

The Yorkshire, Canton Fire, and Hongkong Fire Insurance companies on the 20th ult. deposited 100,000 yen each with the Japanese Department of Agriculture and Commerce, through the Kencho.

The Mr. Dennison Morgan, whose marriage to a Kyoto geisha took place on the 21st ult., is not, as reported, a son of the American millionaire, Mr. Pierpont Morgan, but a nephew of that gentleman. It may perhaps be hoped, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, that now the marriage is announced, Japanese papers will cease to concern themselves with the doings of this young gentleman, which have afforded them so much copy of an unvarnished character during the last few months.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 3rd January.

EXPORT OF RICE.

Some three months ago, it may be remembered, the prohibition on export of rice and grain from Canton was withdrawn. The whole of the export trade was farmed out, and a large sum was thus added to the imperial revenue here. This policy has caused a great deal of discontent. The price of rice has been steadily going up, and with it that of many other staple products. The charitable institutions, which have a good deal of influence among the Chinese, protested against the permission to export rice from the first, and now it is rumoured that their representations may not be without effect. In connection with the above, I hear that early this morning a placard, posted up during the night in Canal Road, was seized by the authorities. This placard is of the "flaming" variety. It points out the troubles caused by the export of rice—rise in prices and spread of poverty—and then somewhat illogically attributes the whole to the hated foreigner. Finally, it calls on all worthy Chinamen to rise and slay the foreigners on Shameen—and fixes the date for the 19th day of the 12th moon. All smoke and no fire! Foreigners have many crimes attributed to them by the Chinese, but it is hard to see how their culpability has been arrived at in this particular case.

BEACHCOMBERS.

There has of late been a considerable influx to Shameen of undesirable characters of the species beach-comber, and the gaol at the United States Consulate has been occupied more than once during the past month. The railway attracts men who have come to the end of their tether in Hongkong, and they come up on the chance of obtaining employment. Those of them who are not taken into the employ of the Company often find it hard enough to get back to Hongkong, and in the meanwhile cause trouble on Shameen.

SHIPPING ITEMS.

On Tuesday last the river fleet received an accession to its numbers. The *Ying King*, Captain Arnold, will ply regularly under the British flag. A dinner was given on board on Tuesday evening to the Consuls and some of the principal merchants, and the new venture may be said to have been happily inaugurated. After New Year we may expect to see the two new French ships, and the transfer of the *Kong Nam* to the West River trade.

Canton, 4th February

PRIESTS AND PLACARDS.

Last night another inflammatory placard was posted up—to be torn down by the police this morning. This placard was a facsimile of that found in Canal Road last week. Some light seems now to be thrown on the subject, thanks to the investigations of the Government spies who are on the *qui-vive* at present. The culprits appear to be priests, who are seeking to win the ear of the coolie class, which cannot be approached in any other way. What grievance these priests have against foreigners it is hard to conceive—one would imagine that they derive considerable profit from the globe-trotter element, which contributes large sums towards the income of the "show" temples. However, the story may not be true. If any fears existed among foreigners on Shameen, they were surely allayed by the arrival of H.M.S. *Alacrity* which is at present in port. To-day is the day fixed by the placard-posters for the rising, but all is quiet.

FIRES.

Fires have been very frequent during the past few days. On Tuesday of last week there was a fire at the western end of Honam Island, followed by another on Thursday to the east. The latter burnt almost to the water's edge. On Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday nights in this week the steam-whistle on the fire-boat in the river announced fires. The only one of any importance was that on Sunday; it burnt out a score of large shops in the Thirteenth Ward, and was not got under for two hours.

RAILWAY ITEMS.

Mr. Burns, the chief of the engineering staff of the Railway, left Canton on Monday for the United States. During his stay in Canton he made himself very popular with all with whom he came in contact. He did excellent work in pushing on the Faishan branch, and it is largely owing to his business capabilities and powers of organising that so much has been already done. In connection with the Railway, it may not be generally known that a survey was completed some time ago—of the country between Canton and Whampoa. This will make the news that the construction of the Kowloon-Canton railway has at last definitely been decided upon welcome to Britishers. The influence of Hongkong as a centre for the Liaug Kwang trade would not be enhanced by a Canton-Whampoa line.

[FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 2nd February.

ANTI-FOREIGN PLACARD.

The following is a translation of one of the placards that have been posted up in the streets of Canton threatening to attack Shameen and kill all foreigners here:—

"Ever since Shum (the Viceroy) came to Kwangtung the poor have become poorer day by day. At first he promised to do away with all taxation, but afterwards he increased it still more heavily. He extorts from and fines the rich, and discovers capitalists amongst the foreigners to buy rice and export it to foreign countries purposely to injure the poor. At present there is no alternative but to kill the foreign worms and destroy Shameen for the protection of Canton. The 19th (Chinese Calendar) is the day fixed. Anyone that has courage, come and join us. Our brethren, when you come, divide your soldiers. One detachment will attack Shameen and kill all foreigners; leave not a single blade of grass untouched! We, your brethren, have already come to Canton. Those mandarin dogs have given us sufficient public provocation, and everyone hates them intensely."

In view of this sort of inflammatory placard the Chinese officials have sent a few guard-boats to anchor in the canal opposite Shameen for its protection, although there is no sign of anything unusual and no cause for fear. It is customary that at the end of every Chinese year some rascals spread some such wild rumour to excite the populace.

FOOCHOW.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Foochow, 31st January.

There has been a singular dearth of any local news that might interest your readers outside this port of late. Mr. Rickett's dance (a *bal masqué*) at Wayfong proved a great success.

ROAD TRUSTS.

There has been no little friction and a great deal of interest shown by the whole community in the management of our Local Road Trust, ending in the resignation of all the trustees and the secretary. The wisdom of spending the funds available on laying down somewhat flimsy drains all over the "settlement" was generally doubted by the community, when other more pressing repairs to roads, etc., were obviously desirable. Some letters in our weekly paper fanned the flame of discontent with the result mentioned above. A meeting of all subscribers to the Road Trust was held in the Club on the 29th and was attended by a large and representative gathering. Mr. Siemssen, the outgoing chairman, tendered his resignation for himself and the other trustees and secretary. In point of fact Mr. Martinkovich, one of the trustees, had resigned previously as he did not approve of the "drains" scheme. Subsequently, upon a proposition by Mr. Brady (the English Consul) that the resigning trustees should be asked to stand again—which was practically a vote of confidence, and was seconded by Mr. Drew, the Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Siemssen most indignantly refused, and quite lost all sympathy with the meeting, leaving the room directly a proposition

had been carried to ballot for a new committee. The result of the ballot was the election of Messrs. E. B. Drew, T. Rennie, C. Skerritt Rogers, E. J. Moss, and T. Brockett.

A.D.C.

The performance of *Our Boys* has been fixed for Tuesday, the 9th February, and is expected to be a very successful one. Mr. G. Balloch is stage manager.

PROSPECTIVE DEPARTURES.

The community have been startled by the news of two important changes about to take place. Mr. C. B. Rickett has resigned from the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, of which institution he has been the local agent for some 14 years. Mr. Rickett expects to leave by the second German mail in April, and is to be succeeded by Mr. C. H. Balfour as agent.

Mr. W. G. Macvicar, the sub-agent of the Chartered Bank, is also leaving the port. I understand he is to take charge of the Hankow agency, and expects to leave some five weeks hence. Mr. W. G. Peter, brother of Mr. J. C. Peter, chief accountant of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is said to be his probable successor.

FOOCHOW ARSENAL.

Mr. Ch. D. yers is still at Pagoda Anchorage, as also is Mr. L. Ratard, French Consul-General from Shanghai. Dr. Vizerie, of the Arsenal staff, is going home to Europe on furlough.

CORRESPONDENCE.

STREET NAMES IN HONGKONG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Hongkong, 1st February.

SIR,—In your "Jottings" to-day you comment on the street nomenclature. You call to remembrance the different Governors and presiding officers of the Colony, and notice the omissions in the series. It is a good thing, doubtless, in a fleeting and changing population like that which we have here, to make some mark against the names of each of the successive rulers who come and go, whether deserving or otherwise, for the memory of the Colony is short and elusive; but, when putting them on the record, should we forget those who assisted at the birth of the Colony, and on whom the stress and responsibility of a most trying work fell? I say no, and I think the omission very marked (and not at all creditable to Hongkong) of any trace of the names of Sir Rutherford Alcock and Sir Harry Parkes; not a single mention anywhere. And yet to no man has the Colony in its incipience been more indebted than to Sir Harry Parkes, to whom it owes the acquisition of Kowloon, and who was distinctly the leading actor in the events of that day. When I saw that one road was renamed "Park Road" I thought that it would have been a graceful piece of thoughtfulness to have added a couple of letters; but the principal street in the settlement would not have been unworthily so named. Shanghai has done herself the credit of erecting a statue, well deserved, to his memory; Hongkong should not have been behind in showing on British soil her appreciation of the services of an admirable representative Briton. I know that it was the intention of Sir Henry Blake to have moved in the matter, but in the end he left it unattended to.—Yours, &c., L.

We take the two following articles from the *Shanghai Mercury* of the 27th ult.:—Mr. R. Littmann, the ex-employee of the Russo-Chinese Bank, arrived here last night by the N.D.L. steamer *Geru*. He was met on his arrival by Detective-Sergeant Moore and conducted to the Central Station, where he spent the night. At 9 a.m. to-day he was taken to the German Consulate, where he had a hearing, and from there to the British gaol, where he will be confined during his trial.—There is a report about town to-day that a prominent Chinese resident of Kobe, not unconnected with the Russo-Chinese Bank there, who was a passenger by the *Hakuai Maru* to-day, has found it convenient to remain on board, under Japanese jurisdiction, while the Consular authorities concerned are discussing certain complaints made against him. More will probably be heard of the case.

SCHOOL PRIZE-GIVING AT HONGKONG.

DIOCESAN SCHOOL.

The annual distribution of prizes to the boys of the Diocesan School and Orphanage, Bonham Road, took place on the 29th ult., H.E. Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., performing the ceremony. A large number of visitors attended the function. Right Rev. J. C. Hoare, Bishop of Victoria, presided, and among those present besides His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, were Mrs. May, His Honour Sir William M. Goodman, Chief Justice; Mr. Geo. Piercy, jr., headmaster, and Mrs. Piercy, Mr. H. A. B. Ponsonby, Private Secretary to His Excellency; Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson Principal Civil Medical Officer; Rev. Dr. and Mrs. T. Bateson Wright, Rev. Messrs. T. W. Pearce, R. T. Johnson, C. H. Hickling, T. Wright, E. J. Barnett, W. J. Southam, W. Laird, Gottschalk, and J. H. France, Messrs. W. D. Braidwood, T. Landolt, R. Bandet, H. Sykes, A. O. Brawn, C. R. S. Cooper, and H. Jackson, Mrs. Arnold and Mrs. Grimes. In the corridors were displayed specimens of drawings by the pupils. The proceedings were commenced by the singing by the boys of a song entitled "The Zoological Gardens," under the conductorship of Mr. C. R. S. Cooper.

Mr. GEO. PIERCY, the headmaster, then read the annual report of the school, as follows:—

We are thankful to be able to report that the past year has been in many respects the most successful the school has ever had. The health of the establishment has been good and there has been an almost total absence of malarial fever. This is probably due to the efforts of the Government to exterminate mosquitoes by training the nullahs, and to the little earth-cutting in the neighbourhood for new buildings. Great care is paid to sanitary arrangements and the health of the boys. There has lately been an outbreak of mumps. Our thanks are due to Dr. Bell and Dr. Laing, of the Civil Hospital, who have most kindly attended to boys as in and out-patients, and to Dr. Kew for dental services.

During the summer months the boys went once or twice a week by steam launch to neighbouring beaches for sea-bathing and swimming, and greatly enjoyed these outings. The season was closed by a picnic. We landed (by kind permission of the Colonial Secretary) at Stonecutters' Island and had various aquatic sports, for which prizes were provided. At the Hongkong Regatta in December, our boat's crew trained by an "old boy" (Mr. A. J. Mackie) came in first in the Schools' Race, amidst much applause. Through the generosity of another old boy (Mr. H. Hastings, of Formosa) we were able to have a launch to witness this and other events. In cricket, the school team has been generally successful. The boys also play football and tennis. During the year two five-courts have been erected by Messrs. Palmer and Turner after the Eton and Rugby models respectively. These are, I believe, the only five-courts in the Colony, and are greatly appreciated by masters and boys. The breaking-up concert before the summer vacation was a great success. On several of the winter evenings we have been entertained and instructed by the magic lantern. Lieut. Browne, R.E., kindly gave us Coronation pictures; Engineer-Commander W. J. Austey, R.N., a tour round the globe; Rev. T. Wright, Japanese and Hongkong views; Messrs. Everall and Stebbins, English and European pictures; Revs. H. R. Wells and Burkwell, an illustrated lecture on the world-wide work of the B. and F. Bible Society.

The income from fees was considerably greater than in any previous year; the average attendance increased by 8, and was 171 for the 241 days on which school was taught, and until we get a larger building we cannot hope to greatly improve on this.

The Inspector of Schools examined, on December 15th, and following days, all the boys (151) who had fulfilled the Government requirement of 100 days; of these, according to his return, 136, or 90 per cent., passed. At the Oxford Local Examination 68 per cent. of the 98 Hongkong

candidates passed. All our candidates (16) were successful, viz., 3 Senior, 6 Junior, 7 Preliminary. This is the first time we have had such satisfactory results, and great praise is due to Mr. Sykes and Mr. Brawn. The staff has remained the same as last year, Mrs. Grimes being added to teach music. All have heartily co-operated in the interests of the school, especially during my nine weeks' absence in hospital, when Mr. Sykes in particular was most indefatigable. Mr. Cooper was absent for a fortnight, having been selected by the Hongkong Cricket Club to play in the Inter-port match in Shanghai. (Applause.)

The boarding accommodation has been for some years fully occupied, and boys have had to be refused admission. Part of the building is very old, having been built over 40 years ago, and is constantly needing a great deal of money to be spent in repairs. If the west wing were pulled down, a large three-storied block could be erected in the garden, and would provide larger and more convenient class rooms, and dormitories giving greater accommodation. A gymnasium might be included, and would be a great boon.

The following friends have again kindly contributed the prizes:—Mrs. Siebs, His Hon. Sir W. M. Goodman, Hon. Wei Yuk, Rev. F. T. Johnson, Messrs. F. B. L. Bowley, Chan Long-hin, Choy Leep-chee, Choy Po-sieu, D. Elphinstone, Fung Wa Chun, H. Hastings, E. A. Hewett, Ho Fook, Ho Lung, Sin Tak-fan, T. S. Smith, F. Southey (England), J. Witchell.

The report of the Examiner in Religious Knowledge (Rev. T. Wright) was as follows:—"I have again conducted the examination of the Diocesan Boys' School in religious knowledge, and am glad to be able to report that the condition of the school as a whole is such as to reflect great credit on both preceptors and pupils. Forms I and II were examined *visa voce*, the remaining five forms by printed questions. In all 148 boys presented themselves for examination, and of these the answering of 120 was sufficiently good to merit a pass, 28 failing to reach that standard. The papers of Forms VII and VI were excellent. Those of Form V were very good indeed. Form IV sent in papers not quite so good as I had hoped for, and Form III was somewhat disappointing, but I have reason to believe that many of the boys, especially the Chinese boys, did not quite grasp the full meaning of the questions. In Forms II and I there were very few failures, the work having been done so well as to make it difficult to decide who were really the best. In all the forms the questions on the Catechism received the best answers, showing that the boys had been well grounded in the fundamentals of the faith. When it is remembered that diverse races and nationalities are represented, that English is not the mother tongue of a large proportion of the boys, and that few of the lads have the benefits of home training in religious subjects, it will be seen that the task of the teachers is no easy one. In spite of these difficulties the staff has acquitted itself admirably. Taking the school generally I have no hesitation whatever in saying that in this department of its work it will compare most favourably with similar institutions at home." (Applause.)

His Excellency then presented the prizes to the successful scholars, and afterwards the choir sang a patriotic song "The British Flag," the effect of which was heightened by the introduction of miniature Union Jacks that the boys displayed.

HIS EXCELLENCY then said—My Lord Bishop, Mr. Piercy, Ladies and Gentlemen—It has been a great pleasure to me to come here to-day to present the prizes. I looked forward to it with pleasure, and I may say that the pleasure has been greater than my anticipations. There is a spirit about this school, as evidenced by the song we have just heard sung, that goes to the heart of every Britisher. (Applause.) We cannot despair that this Colony will hold her place in the Empire—aye, and make even a bigger place for herself—when we have our young boys brought up with the spirit of patriotism that we have seen evidenced just now. I am very pleased indeed to see Mr. Piercy, recovered from his severe accident, and again able to take his place in the direction of affairs. (Applause.) The report he has just read is, I think you will all agree with me, a

most satisfactory one, and I have had the advantage of learning from the Inspector of Schools, who has made his own independent examination of this school, that he is entirely satisfied with the work done here. (Applause.) He tells me that in the upper classes some most excellent work has been done and he has sent me examples of it that I might satisfy myself on the point, and I thoroughly agree with him; and I congratulate the masters of this school on having attained such a very satisfactory result. He had only one principal criticism to make, and I think it is as well that I should mention it, as it is a subject which engaged the attention of the Government during the past year; and that is the principle laid down by the last Governor, Sir Henry Blake, and endorsed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that Chinese boys should not be taught English in the same class as non-Chinese boys until the Chinese boys have acquired sufficient knowledge of English to really understand the teaching given to the class in the English language. (Applause.) He gave me an example of that. He said that in the lower classes of the school 10 Chinese boys failed in reading English while, I am sorry to say, 16 non-Chinese boys failed in arithmetic. I think that is pretty good proof that the Chinese boys required more teaching in reading English and the non-Chinese boys in the mathematical subjects. Men say that knowledge is power, and so it is; and it is the duty of you boys to avail yourselves of every opportunity of acquiring knowledge; but there are other things besides knowledge, and I am glad to say that one of the features of the report that has pleased me more than any other is the appendix to it, the report from Rev. Mr. Wright on his examination of this school in religious knowledge. Mr. Wright paid a high compliment both to teachers and pupils, and he says the knowledge attained was, taking it all round, of a high standard. I think that is most satisfactory. I have said that knowledge is power, but there are in these later days, I am sorry to find, sometimes many clever men who think that because they are clever and because they possess knowledge they can do without religion. Now, let me remind you boys who are about to embark upon the battle of life that you will find the most helpful of all things in the trials, temptations and disappointments,—aye, and the sorrows with which the life of every man is more or less filled—I say the most helpful thing for you in these hours is an earnest and steadfast religious belief. (Applause.) A clever and brilliant man may be a potent factor in society, but in the long run the most useful member of society, the most useful man for his country, is the man who, filled with honesty of purpose, love of truth, and loyal devotion to duty, carries out the Divine teaching by working heart and soul every day of his life at the task to which God has called him. (Applause.) If you carry out that teaching I can assure you that you will do good in this world, no matter how humble the path you may be called upon to tread, and when at the end of life's day you cast down your burden you will have the satisfaction of attaining that happiness which is born of the consciousness of having done your duty to the best of your ability, not only to your temporal masters, but to the Supreme Master, the Master of the Universe. (Applause.)

HIS LORDSHIP Bishop HOARE said he was sure he was expressing the feelings of all present when he thanked His Excellency most heartily for coming there that morning to present the prizes, and more than that they thanked him, and he personally did from the bottom of his heart, for the strong, helpful words His Excellency had spoken to the boys on the great importance of the religious side of their education. It was not the first time he had heard the same thoughts expressed by those who came to give away the prizes, and he hoped the boys would remember this, that it was not only the pastor who spoke of religion and urged upon them the importance of religion. They had heard the General and His Excellency and others who were not of the clerical profession telling them the same thing, that if you want to lead a good and useful life you must first of all get that which was the beginning of knowledge—the knowledge of God. In referring to the teaching of English

in the classes he considered His Excellency was touching upon a weak point, but he hoped His Excellency would also remember that it was a very difficult question when you had a school established for a good many years, working on established principles, and having very large number. The question had been before them for several years. To really carry out the separation of classes in the manner indicated would require a very largely increased staff and very largely increased accommodation, and would involve a very large increase of expenditure. Accommodation was the one thing, though; there was not really enough for the actual needs of the school. It would be a great help to them if they could increase the buildings. With regard to the mixture of classes, he believed it did tell against the advance of the English boys in some respects; on the other hand he was sure that it told in favour of the speaking powers of English on the part of the Chinese boys, and that if His Excellency were to test the speaking power of the different schools he would find that the boys of that school, whatever their relative merits might be as regards reading and writing, a very rate spoke English better than the boys in any other schools in the Colony. That was no doubt largely owing to the fact that they mixed with the others in the classrooms and he laid stress on this—in the playground where they played together and talked English together. At the same time he personally felt very strongly the importance of the criticism that had been passed on them, and he was sure the authorities of the school would do all they could to meet the wishes of the Government in the matter, and all that was practicable for the benefit of the boys of all nationalities and of all classes in the school. The report on the school gave thankfulness to them all. One thing he noticed when the prizes were being given away was the large number who were not present to receive their certificates. In one case he was afraid it was owing to illness. But in the other cases, Mr. Piercy had told them, it was because the boys had got situations and had gone out to work. That was a very satisfactory sign of the good work the school was doing; it turned out good, useful, practical boys whom people were glad to get hold of for employment in different places. One had gone to Formosa, and he might tell them that the last time he was at Foochow he found a Diocesan School boy in the British Consulate Post Office there; and as he travelled among the coast ports he heard again and again of good work being done by boys who had gone out from that school. (Applause.) Another thing he was glad to see was that one of the prizes for good conduct was a bat, and that the references in the report to the athletic successes of the school were warmly applauded by the boys as well as the reference to one of the masters who was called upon to represent the Colony at cricket in Shanghai. It was a good thing that the boys should have a hearty interest in their games and in the success of their games. (Applause.) With regard to the education of the school he felt that it was the only boys' school which was not a distinctly missionary school in which a real solid education in English was given and—he was looking at it now from an educational point of view simply—he considered that no boy could be said to have been properly grounded in English who had not been taught to read and know his Bible, for if anyone wanted to know English, to understand English literature, he must know his Bible. Our English literature quoted it, its phraseology and thoughts adorned any kind of English literature you looked at—even the sceptical; therefore he considered it to be of the utmost importance, simply from an educational point of view, that they should have the Bible thoroughly well taught in this school. But there was a much higher point of view, that was, we believed the Bible taught us the way in which after this life was done we passed into eternal life, and therefore far beyond all the educational value of the Bible he thanked God for the work done in that school in training up so many boys of different nationalities in the knowledge of the truth of God and of His Gospel. In conclusion his Lordship wished the master and the boys a very pleasant holiday. He must say that the masters in that school had

hard work to do and they did it very well. Mr. Piercy had mentioned in his report the excellent work done, during his enforced absence, by Mr. Sykes and other members of the staff. He was sure those who intimately knew the work of the school would be able to agree with him when he said that they all ought to be most thankful for the staff they had got from Mr. Piercy downwards. The excellence and success of the school was undoubtedly, under God's blessing, very largely owing to the fact that they had been able to secure the services of Mr. Piercy for so many years and such an admirable staff as they had under him. (Applause.)

The proceedings ended with the singing of "God Save the King." Three cheers were afterwards given by the boys for His Excellency, for the Bishop, for Mr. and Mrs. Piercy, and, lastly, for the King, after which the company dispersed.

The school re-opens on 1st March.

BELLIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL.

On the 30th ult. Mrs. May performed the ceremony of presenting the prizes to the scholars of the Bellios Public School. Captain M. R. Hurley, A.D.C., accompanied Mrs. May, who was met by Mrs. Bateman, the head mistress. There was a large attendance of visitors. After an exhibition of physical drill had been given by the girls the presentation of prizes was made.

Mrs. May said—Mrs. Bateman, ladies and gentlemen.—It has given me great pleasure to come here to-day to present the prizes. The report seems to indicate a very satisfactory state of things; and that the school should show so marked an increase in spite of increased fees and the competition of other schools is indeed satisfactory. As regards the Chinese girls in the vernacular school, I am fully in sympathy with the experiment alluded to in Mrs. Bateman's report—I mean the encouragement of the girls from the vernacular school to complete their studies in the English school. I congratulate the girls who have won scholarships, and I wish Mrs. Bateman, her staff, and all the children a very happy holiday. (Applause.)

Mr. E. A. IRVING, Inspector of Schools, said he felt that he need add very little to the comments of Mrs. May regarding the report, although he might state in his humble way that he fully endorsed them all. That the school should not only have kept up its numbers, but have increased them by 14 per cent., showed that it was in a very healthy condition. Beside the matter of increased fees, the school suffered from the competition of other schools, which had arisen and which offered advantages to special sections of the community. In particular, he mentioned the Kowloon School, and said he could not refrain from expressing his admiration at what he called the altruism of Mrs. Bateman, who had parted with many of her best scholars without a sigh or, if with a sigh, a very small one. As regarded the education in English, of the girls of the Chinese school, he felt that a word of acknowledgment was due to Miss Bateman for the able way in which she had furthered that object. Her pupils had, in a short time, reached to a considerable measure of knowledge in English, and this in spite of the fact that Mrs. Bateman had been hampered in several ways during her year's work. As an instance, he mentioned the fact that, for a portion of the time, a member of the staff had to be seconded upon other duties, which threw an additional class on Miss Bateman's hands. But he alluded specially to the outrage which incapacitated her from duty during a part of last term. He was glad to say that she was completely recovered from its effects, and was pleased to hear that not only had the stolen property been recovered but the miscreants themselves had been "recovered," and were now paying the penalty of their villainy. Proceeding, Mr. Irving then directed the scholars' attention to the old maxim "Hard work brings success," and said that such was not always the case. Sometimes success might come without hard work, and therefore he asked them to consider how the maxim would read transposed, "Success brings hard work." He said that it was no empty paradox, but a fact which they might verify for themselves. As an instance, he asked which

soldier and which civilian were they who during the late war worked harder than any? Not the private in the ranks nor the clerk in the dockyard, though they worked very hard. If he had to guess he would say the hardest workers of all were the men whose success had already brought them to the top of the tree—Lord Kitchener and Mr. Chamberlain. And if they considered the highest example of all, it was not hard work that brought King Edward to the throne. But how much spare time did they think he had? Well might their national seer put the words into the mouth of King Henry, "Unhappy lies the head that wears a crown." And therefore, when they considered the innumerable calls upon her time, they must, with great heartiness, tender their thanks to the lady who had lengthened a long day's work by attending at the school to distribute the prizes. (Applause.)

Miss Kitty Hung then presented Mrs. May with a basket of flowers, and the proceedings ended with the singing of "God Save the King."

The prize list is as follows:—

ENGLISH DIVISION.

Class I—1, Ella Hyndman; 2, Mary Peterson; Special diligence, Ida Noma; Needlework, Annie Lesbirol.

Class II—1, Florence Joseph; 2, Marian Alarakia; Needlework, Agnes Law.

Class III—1, May Kin; 2, Ah Ching; Needlework, Olive Lu Chooey.

Class IV—1, Agnes Lee; 2, Annie Olson; Needlework, Mary Lindblom.

JUNIORS DIVISION.

Class I—1, Ah Yik; Needlework, Grace Ahlong.

Class II—1, Lo Lai Wah; 2, Ah Ngo.

Class III—1, Nellie Kave; 2, Ebrahim Ahmet; Needlework, Kitty Hung.

Class IV—1, Lung Lai Shan; 2, On Wing.

Class V—1, Zahara Alarakia; 2, Abu Moosa.

Class VI—1, Alec Aludee; 2, Lucy Watson.

Proficiency in English—1, Mei Ngo; 2, Li Kwai Yuk; 3, Li Yut Ha; 4, Lo Yau.

Good Attendance medals and certificates:—Ella Hyndman, Mary Peterson, Esther Noma, Florence Joseph, Marian Alarakia, Sophie Joseph, May Kin, Ah Ching, Lily Rose, Olive Lu Chooey, Arthur Kaye, Ah Yik, Ahloolah Samy, Musapha Moos, Mei Ngo, Kitty Hung, Clara Lee, Ah Mut, Ebrahim Ahmet, Zahara Alarakia, Ebrahim Alarakia.

Drill—Seniors, Ida Noma; Juniors, Kitty Hung.

Embroidery—1, Li Kwai Yuk, 2, Sut Ying.

CHINESE DIVISION.

Class VII—Li Mei Yuk, Ts'ang L. Shim; Class VI, Li Hung, Wan Ying Tung; Class V, Kwan U Yau, Wong Sui Min; Class IV, Ng Sin Yau, Tso Chuk Chau; Class III, Chan Po Chan, Lung Loi Ho; Class II, Ko Tsui Lau, Mak Wo; Class I, Ho Tsui Ngo, Ng So.

Embroidery—Class VII, Yuk Mei Li; VI, Li Hung; V, Kwan Yue Yau; IV, Ng Lin Yau; III, Chan Po Chau; II, Mak Wo; I, Wong Kwai.

Mrs. Bateman wishes to express her sincere thanks to the following generous donors of prizes:—

Sir J. M. Goodman, Hon. Sir Paul Chater, Hon. C. W. Dickson, Hon. A. W. Brown, Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, Rev. F. T. Johnson, Messrs. W. G. Humphreys, S. Arnold, G. Murray Bain, J. H. Cox, Duncan Clark, Victor Deacon, Gaupp and Co., H. Humphreys, Kelly and Walsh, Eng Wa Chun, Chan Pat, Hughes and Hough, W. B. Dixon, D. Macdonald, E. Mitchell, W. Smith, Ho Fung, Ho Fook, La Chn Pak, Lau We, Chan, C. A. Tomes, J. Goosmann, Capt. Goddard, Lock Hing, See Woo, Tak Chong, David Sassoon, D. Adwell and Co., J. Whalley, Fred Kew, Andrew Forb-s, and H. B. Mitchell.

The foreign Chamber of Commerce at Yokohama has issued a circular to the following effect:—In order to comply with Japanese laws, one of which provides that only one Chamber of Commerce, using that title, can exist in any one city in Japan the Yokohama Foreign Chamber of Commerce has changed its title to Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade. This has become necessary in order to obtain registration as a juridical person for this Institution under the Revised Treaties and on account of the existence in Yokohama of a Japanese Chamber of Commerce.

THE ANGLO-CHINESE DISTRICT SCHOOLS.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., on the 1st inst. presented the prizes to the successful students in the Anglo-Chinese District Government Schools—Saiyingpun, Wanchai, and Yaumati—the ceremony taking place in the Wanchai School. Mr. E. A. Irving, Inspector of Schools, presided, and among those present were Mr. P. A. B. Ponsonby, Private Secretary to His Excellency; Mr. W. H. Williams, Saiyingpun; Mr. Wm. Curwen, Yaumati; Mr. Young Hae, Wanchai; Mr. A. O. Brawn and Mr. U. R. S. Cooper. Before the formal proceedings began recitations were given by boys from each school.

Mr. IRVING said he had been requested by the headmasters of the three District Schools which were represented there to read the annual report upon the progress of the schools during the past year. It was a duty which was usually undertaken by the headmasters themselves, and he was all the more conscious of the compliment and gladly consented to do what he had been asked. He only regretted that they were unable to hear from the mouths of the gentlemen best qualified to speak an account of the interesting experiment whose first phase, as it were, was punctuated by that day's gathering.

Mr. IRVING proceeded to read the report, which stated that the three schools were in existence in 1901 as free schools, and gave elementary instruction in English and Chinese to the children in the neighbourhood. The same Chinese masters were now doing excellent work, although the methods employed, which were general in Europe and America, were revolutionary in the annals of Hongkong. Under the same roof as the English classes were vernacular classes, in which a sort of education was given, but very few of the boys knew the meaning of what they learned by heart. And if the boys did not learn their own language they did not learn English. They learned three or four school readers almost by heart. That was in the past, but a different system was now in vogue. The organisation of the schools was entirely remodelled under English masters, and the results of the last examination showed a vast improvement. In elementary geography the same improvement was shown, and the arithmetic done by the first-year boys was exceedingly good. Composition, however, was weak, but colloquial English showed great advancement, and the senior boys talked English "as Wellington did French," according to a saying of Napoleon, "courageously." The standard of Chinese language attained in the schools was very moderate, that of Saiyingpun being the best of the three. Mr. Irving dealt with the question of teaching simple English thoroughly, as if English was to be the tool for further learning, then the tool must be well forged, and ready to hand before good work could be expected. It was also proposed to admit no boy to the school without some knowledge of the character of his own language, and then to dispose and improve that knowledge so that the student may be able to use it for practical purposes. In the upper schools frequent translations from English to Chinese and from Chinese to English would be insisted upon. In concluding his report Mr. Irving called upon His Excellency to present the prizes.

HIS EXCELLENCY then presented the prizes, after which he said—Mr. Irving, ladies, and gentlemen, Mr. Irving has told you that to-day marks the first stage in an experiment. It is an experiment, and a very important one, I think, not only in the educational interests in the Colony, but also in the commercial interests of this great emporium of trade. When I came out as Colonial Secretary, in 1902, one of the first pieces of work that fell to my lot was to see how far and in what manner the recommendations of a very important Commission—the Commission on Education—might be adopted; that is to say, I had to advise the Governor for the time being, as far as my ability enabled me, as to what changes could and could not be made. After a very great deal of correspondence with the home authorities and others, various changes were decided upon, and one of the most important of them was the reorganisation of the

Government Anglo-Chinese schools. To-day we have the first-fruits of that reorganisation, and I think all those who are interested in education in the Colony must have heard to-day or will, no doubt, read in the newspapers to-morrow, with a great deal of pleasure, the satisfactory report which the Inspector of Schools has just now read to us. And I would like, before I go further, to congratulate the masters of the district schools, and the Chinese masters working under them, upon the very good work which they have already accomplished. What we want in Hongkong are Chinese who know the English language, and also, let me once more emphasise it, who know their own. I have had occasion before now to state that in my experience, which has been a considerable one, of the difficulties in carrying on business in Government offices—and it must also be found to be a difficulty in commercial firms—is the want of clerks who know their own language as well as knowing some English. Now, English, as we have heard in the report, is being taught in the district schools on a different system to what has been done in the past. I may say that I thoroughly endorse that system. It is the system that is now used at home in teaching all modern languages, and I do not think there is any question that it is the best way of learning a living language. I have before to-day had occasion to visit the district schools and see them actually at work, and I must say that I have been much struck by the progress made by the students in colloquial English. The masters appear to me to teach them in a most intelligent manner, and what is very pleasing is to see that the students appreciate the efforts being made by their masters, and as far as I could judge they seem to enter into the spirit of the new method of teaching and to render on their part the task of the master more easy. I have heard it said that it is no use trying to get Chinese boys to talk, because they won't talk. Well, I must say that in my visits to the district schools I have found that they were quite ready to talk. (Applause.) I have had an opportunity of seeing some of the examination papers that were done at the recent examination by the Inspector of Schools and I have taken a special interest in the translation work from English into Chinese, because that was a test of the progress made in the other department of education to which I referred, the teaching of the Chinese language. I regret to say that the progress in that direction is not so satisfactory, but I hope that a recent change which I have sanctioned, by which three vernacular schools have been closed and the masters have been taken from them and transferred to the district schools to teach the Chinese language there, may have a beneficial effect. If it has not—and we shall be able to learn before the next distribution of prizes whether the change has been fruitful of success—then all I can say is that some other measures must be taken, for of one thing I myself am determined, and that is that as far as I can do it I will have Chinese boys in the district schools getting a good sound education in their own language (applause), and I would ask you boys to remember that. I am more or less an employer of labour—at least I am an official who has a good deal to say with regard to the selection and appointment and promotion of Chinese clerks in the Government service—and I have also many friends in the commercial world in this Colony, and I can tell you that it is not enough for you to know English only. If you want to be successful and if you want to make a good income, I do not care whether it is under the Government or under some large mercantile firm, you must know Chinese as well. I think that all those who have heard the recitations to-day will have been very pleased with them, and I think I may express the prophecy that there is one boy at least [H.E. was referring to a little fellow who had recited excellently "When I'm a Man"] who when he comes to be a man will be a very useful member of society if he goes on as he has begun. (Applause.) Now, I am told he is only nine years old; I suppose that is only nine Chinese, which makes it about eight in English reckoning. When he is eighty he may be Viceroys of a Chinese province perhaps or occupy a considerable official position in this Colony. (Applause.)

Mr. W. H. WILLIAMS on behalf of the staffs and the boys of the district schools thanked the ladies who had graced the ceremony with their presence and the Inspector of Schools, Mr. Irving, for his report upon the district schools collectively. Mr. Irving had told them what the boys could do, but had omitted to point out a little feature of school curricula which the boys in these schools could not do. Part of an English boy's early education was to learn to sing. He mentioned that fact because the district schools were conducted as far as possible on the lines of an English school, and it was quite possible that a few of their visitors had expected to hear school songs. As yet, however, school singing was not taught in their schools. In fact the headmasters had considered it and had decided for the present at any rate against it. He had also to thank His Excellency most heartily for distributing the prizes and for his address to the boys. Perhaps the boys had not been able to follow all the points of His Excellency's address, but he felt sure they were sufficiently intelligent to realise that by his coming personally and addressing them those who provided them with this means of education were anxious to go farther and to encourage them in the way His Excellency had done. The prizes were given by the Hongkong Government, and in receiving them from the hands of His Excellency they felt that they had a double value and appreciated them all the more. (Applause.)

The scholars then gave three cheers for His Excellency, and the proceedings were concluded by the recitation by one of the boys of "God Save the King" and three cheers for His Majesty.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

The annual distribution of prizes took place on the 2nd inst. at Queen's College, the ceremony being performed by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G. There was a large attendance of scholars and visitors. Among those present were Mrs. May; Mr. R. A. B. Ponsonby, Private Secretary to His Excellency; Dr. G. Bateson Wright, headmaster; Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G.; Mr. and Mrs. Ho Tung, Rev. T. W. and Mrs. Pearce, Rev. G. A. Bunbury and Mrs. Bunbury, Rev. C. H. Hickling, Rev. J. H. France, Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Hale; Brother Joshua, director of S. Stephen's; Brother Isidore, headmaster of the Anglo-Chinese School; Mr. W. H. Williams, headmaster of Saiyingpun District School; Mr. C. Mooney and Mrs. Mooney, Mr. E. T. H. Bunje and Mrs. Bunje, Mr. Ng Chit Mi, Mr. Wong Kam Pook and the following members of the staff:—Messrs. A. W. Grant, B. Tanner, W. R. Seymour, R. E. O. Bird, A. H. Crook, and R. J. Birbeck.

Dr. G. H. BATESON WRIGHT, Headmaster, read the annual report. He said:—I have the honour to present the annual report on Queen's College for the year 1903.

2. The total number on the roll was 1,453 and the average daily attendance 940, figures differing but slightly from those of the previous year. Though the attendance in seven months of the year exceeded that of the corresponding months in 1902, there is a slight diminution (\$20), in revenue derived from fees, which item would have shown an increase of \$80, had it not been for the closing of the hall for the first six months of the year owing to necessary repairs of the roof. The five extra school days accounted for by the special holidays in 1902 connected with His Majesty's Coronation.

3. Mr. A. J. May went on leave on the 4th April, and Mr. E. Ralphs has been an efficient acting second master during his absence. Mr. Daaly was absent on leave throughout the year. Mr. Hollis arrived in February, but resigned on 31st May on leaving the Colony. Mr. R. J. Birbeck, B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge, was appointed in his place, arriving 20th September, and proving an energetic and successful teacher of English. Messrs. Lo Pun-fai and Fung Ho-cheung, 8th and 9th Chinese assistants, having obtained appointments as English teachers at Tientsin University, resigned on 10th April; as also on 31st October did Mr. Lai Chan-pong, 5th Chinese assistant,

on being appointed translator to the Canton and Hankow Railway. All three gentlemen had been conspicuously excellent teachers, and I was sorry to lose their services. Promotions and appointments were made to fill the vacancies thus caused.

4. Non-Chinese classes, as reported at the time to the Government, were abolished by me last February, owing to the diminution in numbers not justifying me in the assignment of two English masters specially for their behoof. The boys were thereupon scattered amongst Classes I-IV, being allotted to those sections that are under the control of English masters. The year's experience has shown that by far the majority have suffered by their return to mixed classes, as is testified by their position obtained by competition in the various Class lists. As a substitute for the two translation subjects, non-Chinese boys in Classes I-IV offered Natural Science and Physiology, and in the remaining classes an incremental *pro rata* allowance was made for these two subjects on the actual total marks obtained by each non-Chinese boy.

5. Monday, the 25th May, was observed by order of H.E. the Governor as a holiday in loving memory of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria. On Saturday, the 23rd, occasion was taken to explain to every class the reason of the holiday, and by aid of maps practical demonstration was given of the expansion of the British Empire in the Victorian epoch. It did not appear convenient or desirable to assemble the boys, who live at all distances (up to two, three, and even six miles) from school, to listen to a lecture upon the holiday itself; especially in view of the damp hot weather usually prevalent in the month of May. I propose, therefore, to make a practice of annually addressing the boys on the subject of the British Empire, on the school day immediately preceding Victoria Day, which has now been gazetted an annual public holiday.

6. Chinese school, abolished in 1896, has at length been restored, five vernacular masters having been appointed by His Excellency from the 1st of January. During the past month, they have been employed in making Chinese translations, in examining boys already in the College with a view to their classification for vernacular school, and in drawing up time tables and regulations. Vernacular school will begin early in March. By a scheme formulated by me, in February last, not only will there be the direct benefit from the study of the Chinese language, but also there will be to English school the indirect advantage accruing from the transfer of masters of higher to lower English classes, while their own sections are pursuing Chinese studies.

7. In 1887, in the draft suggestions of the requirements for Queen's College, I included the appointment of a normal master. A few years later, I applied for an allowance for this officer, which was, however, refused. With the assistance of the governing body, my labours in this direction have been crowned with success and Mr. Tanner has been appointed normal master by His Excellency from 1st March until further notice. I have in my annual reports repeatedly borne testimony to the excellent work done by Chinese assistants, who have acquired considerable skill in teaching, by laborious practice, aided by hints and advice given by myself. There can, however, be no question that the value of their services will be enormously enhanced by a course of carefully regulated instruction in the art and science of teaching.

8. At the Oxford Local Examinations, the good results of the previous year were surpassed by the successes of 1903. 29 certificates were obtained by Queen's College boys, 5 Senior, 9 Junior, and 15 Preliminary. The mark G, next to Distinction, was obtained 40 times in 1903 as against 16 times in 1902. Of the 29 certificates, 16 were awarded to Chinese boys. Three Chinese boys were placed by the Oxford Examiners at the head of the Senior list in this College, and six at the head of the Junior. In the Preliminary list, the two brothers Galluzzi, by offering Italian in addition to the usual subjects, rank first, being immediately followed by three Chinese boys. The percentage of passes in Queen's College is 83 in Senior, 43 in Junior, and 79 in Preliminary. The inferiority shown by the Junior candidates should prove a salutary lesson for the future, as with very

little more application several more boys might have passed. Heartily congratulations are again due to Messrs. Ralphs, Grant, and Tanner for their painstaking and successful instruction.

9. Various structural improvements have been effected by the Public Works Department in the College in the course of the year. An entirely new roof has been erected over the hall, without a ceiling, as a check on the ravages of white ants; the roof elsewhere have been generally overhauled; improvements made in the approaches to the latrine and its ventilation; and at the suggestion of the acting second master, Mr. Ralphs, two extra rooms have been enclosed from the verandahs for the use of the normal master and pupil teachers.

10. By resolution of the governing body, the annual examination of Queen's College in the months of December and January has been entrusted to the sole control of the Head Master; inspection and examination by the independent examiners being assigned to the summer.

11. The total number recently examined is 997, record figures for this College. The oral examination lasted throughout the month of December, reading in all classes 997 boys, conversation 760, and in Class VII grammar 166 boys. The written examination occupied twenty days in January, 7,165 papers being marked. Of these, 6,227 were corrected and marked by myself, the remaining 938 being marked by Senior Chinese Assistants. Class masters were present at the oral examination, and were called to the office to notice anything of interest in the written work. The system of marking adopted was 34 per cent. marks were necessary for a pass in subject and class, the questions being sufficiently severe, and the standard exacted high. 34-49 marks = Fair, 50-70 = Good, 71-85 = Very Good, and 86-100 = Excellent. Following this line, I estimate the result of the examination as highly satisfactory.

	Boys exam.	Passed
Upper School	266	235 or 88 per cent.
Lower " "	493	480 " 87 per cent.
Preparatory " "	238	221 " 93 per cent.

Total for College 997 886 " 89 per cent.

12. Observations on Groups of Subjects.—English subjects—Reading showed considerable improvement in phrasing, though mispronunciation of common words requires stricter attention. With the exception of Junior section of Class I, which was generally weak, Dictation was very good, Shakespeare, History, Geography, and Composition were exceedingly well done; there being specially noticeable a high degree of intelligence displayed in dealing with these subjects. The results in Conversation were most pleasing; the boys in the Senior section of Class I, acquitting themselves so creditably that I regretted there was no one to hear them except myself and Mr. Ralphs. Professor Barnett, formerly Principal of the Borough Road Training College, thus delivers himself on the subject of Grammar in his preface to a new Edition of Morell:—'The study of grammar would not have maintained so close a hold on the schools if the teachers had not felt its paramount importance as an intellectual exercise, and again general grammatical aptitude is of all things necessary as the indispensable minimum of logic without which we are liable to incorrect thought as well as incorrect speech, for no man has yet succeeded in separating the idea and name.' Fully endorsing Professor Barnett's remarks, I regret once more to be obliged to complain of the low standard attained in the important subject of grammar. In this, as in many other subjects, there is need of more attention to individual scholars, and I would venture to suggest to my masters the advisability of pursuing the course followed by myself during the eight years in which I discharged the duties of a practical teacher in the Central School. I found excellent results obtained through dividing a class roughly into quarters, and devoting my main attention to each of these quarters in different subjects on different days, with occasional demonstrations on the blackboard to the whole class. More inspection of slates and less work on the blackboard appears to me the cure for weakness in grammar and mathematical subjects.

Translation, from and into Chinese were well done, the former being better than

the latter. As usual, an unseen piece of Chinese formed the fifth question in every paper. In the upper school I made selections from recent issues of the local native Press, and I was much pleased with the rendering into English, especially in the senior section of the first class. As a novelty this year, I also inserted an unseen piece of English in every class to be turned into Chinese, but this was not equally well done. The papers written in Chinese were first assessed by the vernacular masters on the matter of style and correctness in writing characters. They were then marked for translation by Messrs Ng and Tsang, the two senior Chinese assistants. In view of the interest evinced by the boys throughout the College in this important branch of education, I much regret that by 8753/03 C. S. O. instruction in both translations has been prohibited in the Lower and Preparatory Schools, representing about 700 boys.

Mathematical subjects.—Arithmetic is again weak throughout the College. Algebra was a successful subject in the Upper School. On the representation of Mr. Grant that the test in Class I. was too severe, I allowed a *pro rata* increment of 25 per cent. to the Senior Section and 50 per cent. to the Junior; but in justice to myself, I must report that, as is the case with all other examination papers, no one question set failed to elicit a correct answer from some one or more boys. Euclid was intelligently done in Classes I-II, and by a few boys in Class III, where it is a new and difficult subject. A better grasp of principles might be exhibited in Mensuration, though several boys deserve high praise. A fair proportion of boys in Classes I and II did well in Bookkeeping. As it is unusual for a non-Chinese boy to excel in these subjects, it is only just to Carl Bunje to place on record that he obtained no less than 86 per cent. marks in both Euclid and Bookkeeping.

Miscellaneous Subjects.—The General Intelligence paper was better worked than in my previous experience; the answers were full of interest and showed acquaintance with a wide field of information. Natural Science and Physiology were well done by the Senior class of non-Chinese boys, who offer these subjects instead of translations. Freehand and Model Drawing and Shorthand have been taught with great success by Mr. Tanner as optional subjects.

13. The scholarships were awarded as under: Senior Morrison, I A, Tse Tsok-kai; Junior Morrison, IV A, Yung Yam-mun; Stewart, I A, Ho Yan-sik; Senior Belilios, I A, Kó Pó sham; Junior Belilios, III A, M. Yamasaki. The Chinese community has by subscription founded a Blake scholarship, of the annual value of \$150, in honour of His Excellency the recent Governor; the first award will be made in 1905 for proficiency in translations and English composition. To the list of donors of prizes published in my last annual report should be added the names of Messrs. Wan Tsung-iu and Leung Lan-fan, both former scholars and masters of this College, who have already attained high position in the Chinese Imperial Service. The sons of Mr. Arculli, old scholars, have joined their father in presenting a handsome donation.

14. In December, Mr. Hannibal Williams was kind enough to accept my invitation to give in the hall a recitation of Shakespeare's Henry IV., Part I. There was a good attendance, and the opportunity was welcomed, especially by those boys who annually make a study of some Shakespearean play. The School Magazine and various club continue to flourish.

15. A new and more liberal scale of salaries for Chinese assistants and pupil teachers came into effect from the 1st instant.

16. Now that the Government is contemplating expenditure of money on lectures on the British Empire and on instruction in hygiene and tropical diseases, it is to be hoped that there will be no further difficulty in obtaining \$400 for gymnastic appliances to improve the physical condition of our scholars, and bring their school life more into accord with that prevailing elsewhere in the empire.

Dr. BATESON WRIGHT after having read the report said—Sir, it is just twelve months since you honoured us by distributing the prizes in this hall. On that occasion I congratulated you on your preferment—your recent preferment—to the post of Colonial Secretary, and now, sir, I have the honour to welcome your Excellency here to-day and to

presume to offer my congratulations on the equally popular preferment to your still more exalted present position. (Applause). For the past ten days the local atmosphere has been full of public functions, and we therefore feel it all the more kind of your Excellency and Mrs. May to take the trouble to come here on this occasion. The large number of prize distributions that have recently taken place must have struck the eyes of all the public generally, but I fancy, sir, that old residents in the Colony like myself are more impressed than new-comers by the large increase in the number of schools, the increase in the attendance at these schools, and above all by the increase in the efficiency of these schools. Twenty years ago, when I was Acting Inspector of Schools for twelve months, I had considerable acquaintance with all the educational conditions of the Colony that then existed, and I feel confident I am correct in saying that had any gentleman at that time predicted that in twenty years' time the expansion of education we now view to-day would be effected he would have been laughed at as a visionary. The Bible tells us that "When one member suffers all the other members suffer with it," but of education I would venture to say that when one school flourishes all the other schools prosper. "The more the merrier"; and, amending the proverb, I would say, "The more schools, the better cheer for the scholars." (Applause.)

H.E. Mr. F. H. MAY then distributed the prizes, and afterwards said:—Dr. Wright, ladies and gentlemen, the report which Dr. Wright has read is, I think you will all agree, a very satisfactory one. I congratulate the Head Master and all the other masters of the school, on the larger measure of success attained this year in the Oxford Local Examinations to what has been accomplished in the past. I think this is a very satisfactory feature of the report (Applause). The Head Master has supplied me with various samples of examination papers in composition, Shakespeare, history, general intelligence, and translation from Chinese into English, and English into Chinese. These papers were, on the whole, very well done and the Head Master is fully justified in being entirely satisfied with them. In his report, Dr. Wright has expressed his regret that in the lower school the system of making translations from Chinese into English and vice versa has, by decision of the Government, been prohibited for the present. Now I think it may be useful if I state the reason of that decision. It is that it is not considered that the best method of teaching boys to compose in a language which they are acquiring is by means of translations until they have gained a certain knowledge of the language. That decision is based upon experience gained in other schools and in other centres of teaching. I might mention one of them. In China, the best school for teaching English young men Chinese is, without doubt, the British Legation in Peking. They have had vast experience in the teaching of Chinese, and their method is that during the first year that a young English man is learning the Chinese language he does not touch translation work at all. He devotes himself entirely to the colloquial language, and when he has a grip of that he begins to translate. I passed through that school myself, and I might just mention for the information of masters, perhaps as a hint to them, that, because translation work is prohibited it does not follow that other methods of teaching the boys to compose should not be adopted. One that was in vogue in those days was for the student to tell his Chinese teacher a story in Chinese one day and get the Chinese teacher to tell it back to him in correct Chinese. One next day he would write a short letter to his Chinese teacher and get him to correct it. That was my favourite method of learning Chinese, and I may say that I found it a very successful one. That brings me to the subject of colloquial generally. You know that, from this year we are going to adopt in Queen's College what is known as the new system of teaching colloquial. It is a system that has been found in Europe to be by far the most successful in teaching modern languages. To assist in the institution of that system, as you have heard from Dr. Wright, in his report, a normal master has been appointed, and I feel quite sure that, with his assistance, and under his instruction, a very great progress will be made during the coming year in the

study of colloquial. It is a subject that the independent examiners, who examined this College a short time ago, made rather severe comments upon. Now it is the duty of all you boys to throw yourselves into the spirit of the new method when it has been thoroughly explained to you, and to assist your masters in carrying it out so that when the independent examiners come to examine the college again they will have nothing but praise where formerly they found fault. Remember that a master cannot do everything. He can only do one half, the student must do the other half, and throw himself into the work and assist the master to the best of his ability. There is another subject that Dr. Wright alluded to, and that is the restoration of the Chinese classes in this college. That is to say that in the lower school boys will be instructed in the Chinese language. Dr. Wright, I know, views this innovation with a great deal of pleasure, and I think you all know that I myself regard it as a most important improvement. I said yesterday, in distributing prizes at the Government District Schools, that it is very necessary for all Chinese who seek to make a career for themselves either in the Government service or in the commercial sphere or in their own country in whatever capacity, that they should have a good sound knowledge of their own language. There is another reason why I, and I believe your Head Master, view with satisfaction the restoration of the Chinese schools. You know that the less educated Chinese in Hongkong—the Chinese of the middle and lower classes—have the unenviable reputation of having much worse manners than the Chinese in China or in Peking or the treaty-ports of China. I have lived in Peking and in Canton, and I have paid short visits to various treaty ports, and I have also travelled extensively in China itself, and I am sorry to say I think the middle and lower classes of Chinese here have well earned that reputation. It is only just now that I, who am for the time being the King's representative in the Colony, came into the courtyard of this College. There were seated there several coolies—ignorant coolies no doubt—and they remained seated till I told the policeman who was following me to make them get up. Now, in China conduct like that would be corrected by the stern logic of the bamboo. I remember many years ago that I rode when travelling in North China into the yard of a Chinese inn followed by my mafoo, who was also on pony-back, and just as I entered the yard of the inn a high Chinese official entered the yard also. He descended from his mule-litter, in which he was travelling close to where my mafoo was sitting on his pony, and my mafoo omitted the etiquette, which is called for by Chinese politeness, of getting down off his pony in the presence of his superiors. Instead of that he remained seated on his pony. I went in to my lunch and the official went into the inn also; and presently I was disturbed by a great outcry, and I went out and I found that some of the suite of the Chinese official were giving my mafoo a very severe licking with sticks and other instruments. I may say that I thoroughly approved of their action. In the afternoon after the Chinese official had left and I was about to leave, my groom came to me and he said, "Your honour, I do not wish any longer to serve you." And I said, "Why?" And he said, "I have lost my 'face.' I have been maltreated and beaten by the suite of the Chinese official and you, my master, did not raise your hand to protect me." And I said, "It is not you who have lost your face, but it is I who have lost my face, and you have caused the loss. You are my servant, and it was your duty to behave with proper politeness to the Chinese official. Instead of that you committed a grave breach of etiquette, for which I will give you another flogging," and brought disgrace on me which I thereupon did; and that man ever afterwards was polite to outsiders and he was also polite to me. Now unfortunately here in Hongkong we cannot in dealing with the ignorant coolies, like those outside this morning, appeal to the stern logic of the bamboo, because the British law does not permit it, but you who are the rising generation of the Chinese can by your example correct such rudeness. If you are

continually polite to your master and to each other and to those who are placed in authority over you, then the lower orders in this Colony will in the course of time imitate your example; and what I have said to the Chinese boys applies equally to European boys and boys of other nationalities. One of the amenities of life which does not do anybody harm and does a great deal of good is politeness. When you come to travel—if any of you ever do—in Western countries, you will find that politeness if nothing else is a commodity which may prove a great economy to you. We have in the West a pernicious system of what we call "tips"—small rewards for services done. My experience is, as they say in the West, that "a smile and a sixpence" in such circumstances, "will go as far as half-a-crown." Therefore in the interests of your pocket I would enjoin upon you to be polite. I now wish you all a very happy holiday. I have been very pleased to come here to-day. Queen's College is the premier school of our Government schools, and the Government derives a great deal of benefit from it. Dr. Wright will tell you that when I was Captain Superintendent of Police whenever I wanted a new clerk, instead of resorting to the competitive examinations which are sometimes inconvenient, I used to ask him to send one of his best Chinese boys from this College, and I must say I never was disappointed in the boys he sent me. (Applause.) Some of them have done extremely well in the Government service and if they go on as they have begun they would do even better; and I can assure you boys that if you attend to your studies and live good sober lives there is plenty of advancement for you both inside this Colony and outside of it. (Applause.)

The usual votes of thanks ended the proceedings.

The following is the list of prizes:—

OXFORD LOCALS, 1903-4.

Senior:—Ho Yan-sik, A. A., Tse Tsok-kai, A. A., Chan Sz-yut; Banje, Carl, A. A., Banje, Henry, A. A.

Junior:—An Hing-fo, Lai Chiu-kun, Fung Pak-liu, Lo Shiu-ting, Fung Kwai-hun, Lam Shiu-in, Mooney, W. G., Tse Yan-lung, Watling, H.

Preliminary:—Galluzzi, R. F., Galluzzi, U. C., Cheung Ting-shan, Sung Ting-sui, Chan Kwok-nin (dead), Juman, Y. M., Markar, C. G., Cheung Lun-shang, Moosa, S. K., Teizer, C., Suffaid, A. M., Rahman, A. K., Li Un-lun, Chau Kwan-lum, A. Abekr, S.

SCHOLARSHIPS 1904.

Morrison Scholarship:—Senior, Tse Tsok-kai; Junior, Yung Yam-man.

Stewart Scholarship:—Ho Yan-sik.

Belilios Scholarship:—Senior, Ko Posham; Junior, Yamasaki.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

Translation:—E to C, Fung Pak-liu, IA, C to E, Tse Yan-lung IA.

History:—IA, Lai Chiu-kun; IB, Pun Hun; IIA, R. Galluzzi; IIB, Chan Shiu-shan; IIIA, Leung Shai-wai; IIB, Leung Kwok-ying; IIIC, Chan Kam-u.

Composition:—IA, Carl Banje; IB, Luk Tsun fai; IIA, W. Ford; IIB, Tam Cheung-wa; IIIA, Tso Shiu-fan; IIB, Kwan Wing-yan; IIIC, Yung Po-man.

Macell Memorial Prize:—IA, Carl Banje.

Shorthand:—IIIA, Cheung Ping-shan.

Drawing:—Freehand—Sung Ting-sui, IIA; Model,—Li Un-lun, IIB.

CLASS PRIZES.

IA, 1, Tse Tsok-kai (Morrison Scholar), Ho Yan-sik (Stewart Scholar), 3, Banje, C. (Macell), 4, An Kwok-leung.

IB, 1, Pang Kwok-sui, 2, Lau Wan-san.

IIA, 1, Chu Po-lam, 2, Leung Shi-kau.

IIB, 1, Wong Ping, 2, Pun Si Yeung.

IIIA, 1, Chan King-leuk, 2, Luk I. yan.

IIIB, 1, Li Pat, 2, Chan Ping-lun.

IIIC, 1, Wong Chau-wong, 2, Ho Wan-chong.

IVA, 1, Yung Yam-man, (Morrison, Junior), 2, Lo Kam-cheung, 3, Kwan Shuecheung.

IVB, 1, Tsoi Wa-cheung, 2, Yeung Pakun.

IVC, 1, Kwok Wan-fan, 2, Ho Shai-kit, 10, A. M. Osman.

VA, 1, Ho Cheuk-kwan, 2, Lau Chu Chum, 8, H. Livesey.

Va. 1, To King-shun, 2, Fung Sz-fong, 3, G. Arab.
 Vc. 1, Lo Man-kon, 2, Leung Tok-hoi.
 Vd. 1, Chung Kam-tong, 2, Yeung Ku-fong.
 Via. 1, Fung Fung-sun, 2, Cheng Iukwan.
 Vib. 1, Au Wing-tsun, 2, Li Lun-kwai.
 Vlo. 1, Cheng Ka-cheung, 2, Leung Ying-kun.
 Vid. 1, Tsoi Fuk-hang, 2, Pan Chungwan.
 Vlla. 1, Au Shu-cheung, 2, U Wing-tok.
 Vllb. 1, Mok-Kui-fan, 2, Sung Kai-kwat.
 Vlc. 1, Li Fat-san, 2, Chan Un-kün, 3, Ha Lin-ting.
 Viid. 1, Ho Un-heun, 2, Fok Min-fui.
 Vllia. 1, Lam Tso, 2, Lam Ki-on.
 Vlllb. 1, Chin Chung-hang, 2, Hung Tai-fan.

ELLIS KADOORIE CHINESE SCHOOL SOCIETY.

The above society held their annual distribution of prizes at the Hongkong branch on the 2nd inst. at noon. Mr. Irving, H.M. Inspector of Schools, gave away the prizes, others present being Mr. Ellis Kadoorie, Mr. W. D. Braidwood, F.E.S. (Superintendent of the Society), Rev. W. Bridie, Mrs. Ezra, Mrs. Judah, and Messrs. John Stirling, E. J. Moses, E. Howard, Hugh Kirkhope, Fung Wa Chun, Lau Chu Pak, Chau Siu Ki, Fung Siu Wa, Chan Foon Ng, Li Hing Chai, Pun Wei Shun, Leung Chuk Chow, Yeung Pui Sang, Fung Sau Sang, Chan Fung Sun, Pang Kang Shang, Chun Chan Nam, Lai Shun Hing, and Wong Siu Leung.

Mr. BRAIDWOOD said that with Mr. Irving's permission he would ask a few of the boys to recite; several of the boys of different classes did so.

Mr. BRAIDWOOD then read the annual report:—In presenting to you the third annual report of the Society's Hongkong College, I am pleased to say that, in many respects, it bears favourable comparison with its predecessors, and if the college has not been conducted wholly on the lines I have recommended, that has been more the fault of circumstances than any want of will on the part of the Council. Great improvements have been made in the entrance and surrounding of the buildings, and the levelling of the ground immediately to the west of the college has been a great boon to the students, while the addition of new offices on the east side has materially added to their comfort. Internally, three class rooms, each capable of accommodating about thirty pupils, have been taken in. These have increased the facilities for individual teaching, have tended to decrease the noise consequent on so many classes being conducted simultaneously in the central hall, and thus improved the discipline. Beyond the possession of maps and globes, the college is but scantily provided with apparatus, and if the subjects of the curriculum are to be efficiently taught, the College should be equipped with the most modern appliances. On June 2 three additional teachers, for the Society, arrived from England. One of these (Mr. Nichol) was appointed assistant master in the Honam College, while Messrs. Hamilton and Scott were retained as assistant masters here. Both of these gentlemen have had considerable experience in teaching, and are conversant with the most modern methods of imparting instruction. To them and the members of the Anglo-Chinese staff, I am much indebted for able and cheerfully-rendered assistance. In December, 1902, the council had under consideration the desirability of placing the college under the Government Grant-in-Aid Scheme, and correspondence with the Inspector of Schools took place. As, however, a new educational code was in course of preparation, the matter was deferred till its completion in June, 1903, and the college came under the aegis of the Educational Department on the 1st July following. In 1901 and 1902 education at this College was free, but while Free Education is, in itself, an excellent thing, it has, when confined to one institution in a district, disadvantages. These disadvantages so influenced the council that it was decided to charge a fee of \$24 per annum, and this regulation has been in force during the past year. In all, 441 pupils were enrolled for 1903,

and the highest number present on any one day was 322. The number of teaching days was 240. I regret to say that only two students made the complete number of attendances, and these will receive special prizes, but I understand the council has in contemplation a scheme by which those who make, say nine-tenths of the possible number of attendances, will receive a more suitable reward. The Annual Examination, conducted by myself, began on the 18th inst. and was continued throughout that and the four succeeding days. The examination of the Chinese Division took place on the three school days immediately following. The percentage of passes in each subject, for all the classes, was as follows:—

Reading 99.1 per cent., English (colloquial), 76 per cent., grammar 83.5 per cent., English composition 76 per cent., arithmetic 84.6 per cent., translation (C to E.) 93 per cent., translation (E to C.) 93.6 per cent., mapping 41.6 per cent., dictation 74.6 per cent., geography 69 per cent., history 100 per cent., mensuration 93.2 per cent., science 79 per cent. Recognising the great importance of colloquial, much time and attention have been devoted to this subject. I, personally, examined every pupil in this branch, and satisfied myself that the method we have adopted of teaching colloquial in even the lowest classes, by means of pictorial illustrations and a collection of familiar objects, is destined to produce the best results. In classes 1A. and 1B. the pass in this subject was 100 per cent. As will be seen from the figures just quoted, the results obtained in geography were not satisfactory. This is a subject that seems to have few attractions for Chinese boys, and the class books at present in use do not treat the subject in the most attractive manner. During the past year many of the students in classes 1A. & 1B. have been successful in securing good appointments at remunerative salaries. Two are student interpreters in the Government service; two interpreters in the employment of the Sanitary Board; two writers in the Naval Yard; two clerks in the Hongkong Club; while still two more are engaged as interpreters by the Canton and Hankow Railway Co. This by no means exhausts the list, but it is sufficient to show that the College is doing good work, and amply fulfilling the object which its promoters had in view. Early in September, a communication was received from Messrs Reid and Sites of the Nanyang College, Shanghai, intimating that the Commissioners for the forthcoming S. Louis Exposition had in contemplation the preparation of an exhibit illustrative of the condition and progress of education in China, and asking us to contribute thereto. To this the Council agreed, and specimens of the students' work, in both English and Chinese, some fine copies of ancient and modern Chinese writing, together with coloured maps and photographs of the exterior and interior of our colleges here, and in Canton, were forwarded. These exhibits were on view here before being dispatched, and together with the specimens from Honam and Saikwan, were much admired. On this occasion, the council has, in lieu of the usual prizes, substituted—in the English Department—a series of scholarships, whereby the most successful students in each class will be exempted from payment of fees, for periods varying from twelve to four months. I am also pleased to be able to announce that by the generosity of the Chinese community, the college has received one of the "Blake" Scholarships of the value of \$50 per annum. Our thanks are due to the committees of the Fung Wa Hospital and Po Leung Kuk respectively, for gifts of watches, as also to the great number of Chinese gentlemen who have so liberally contributed to our prize fund.

Mr. Irving said he did not know whether the study of Sheridan's plays was included in the reading of the senior classes. If so, the boys would be familiar with Mrs. Malaprop's question to Jack Absolute—"Are you like Cerberus, two gentlemen at once?" When he first heard that another famous scholastic institution in the Colony—an institution on whose governing body he had the honour to be—was celebrating its annual prizegiving on that day, and at that hour, he could not help wishing that he, too, like Cerberus, was two gentlemen at once, and able to attend both functions. Indeed, had he been aware of the fact when he was honoured

with the invitation to distribute the prizes there to-day, he would have been a victim to the most conflicting emotions. The Ellis Kadoorie school was first opened at Hongkong in 1901; it had since opened branches at Honam, Canton, and Shanghai. As regards Mr. Braidwood not being satisfied with the appliances he felt in sympathy with him. It was, however, difficult to get such appliances from home, but he felt that before long there would be all that was requisite. Mr. Braidwood said he was not well satisfied with the results of the examination in geography, a subject he took great interest in. Geography was rather hard, and could not be taught efficiently by the Chinese teachers unless they made a good study of it themselves first. Mr. Williams was giving geography classes, at which the teachers could attend, benefiting considerably thereby; it would be made easy for them to do so. There was one point he would like to speak of: it gave him the greatest pleasure to give the last two prizes (the prizes for regular attendance); Chinese boys were very irregular in attendance. He gave thanks to Mr. Braidwood and the ladies and gentlemen for attending the e; and also for the privilege of distributing the prizes. He wished the boys very pleasant holidays.

Mr. LAU CHU PAK first called for three cheers for Mr. Irving, and then three more for the ladies and gentlemen.

The proceedings then terminated

S. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE.

S. Stephen's College, Bonham Strand, held their first prize distribution at noon on the 3rd, His Excellency Mr. F. H. May, C.M.G., giving away the prizes. The Rt. Rev. J. C. Hoare, Bishop of Victoria, was in the chair, others present being Mr. R. A. B. Ponsonby, private secretary to H.E., Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., Mrs., and the Misses Fletcher, Mrs. Piercy, Mr. and Mrs. Goodman, Mrs. Hager, Rev. E. J. Barnett, M.A. (warden of the school), Mr. A. Mackenzie (schoolmaster), Mr. J. Lewis Byrne, M.A., Rev. T. Wright, B.A., Rev. W. Jenkins, Rev. R. and Mrs. Gottchalk, Rev. W. J. Southam, Mr. Sykes, Mr. Benning, Rev. J. H. Franco, M.A., Mr. Sin Wan Cheong, Mr. Ip San Chi, Mr. Ng Tin Po, Rev. Fok Ching Sang, Mr. S. W. Tso, and Rev. Wong Him Yu.

After prayer the Rev. E. J. Barnett read the report:—The first year's work in S. Stephen's College is brought to a close. The difficulties and experimental processes inherent in a new undertaking have had their share in the past twelve months' work, but out of these have arisen much encouragement, pleasure, and no little success. Early in 1903 a provisional prospectus was issued of a new Anglo-Chinese college to be opened by the Church Missionary Society, which would offer to the sons of Chinese gentlemen an English education given altogether by English masters upon the lines of high class English schools. Accordingly, on February 23rd, we began work with six boarders and one day pupil. In less than a fortnight our numbers had doubled, and at the end of the first half year we had twenty-six under instruction. The names of sixteen more were added during the last half, and we close with a roll-call of thirty-two. We have not sought numbers. The high fees have been prohibitive in many instances; but we have felt that an educational institution of this character should be self-supporting, while its efficiency both in staff and work should be beyond question. . . . It mattered not for what purpose money was wanted whether for playground, for sports, or for prizes, the same cheerful readiness to support us has always been manifested. His Excellency Sir Henry Blake, in company with the Right Reverend the Bishop of Victoria, was pleased to visit the College before he left Hongkong, and to express himself pleased with what he saw. . . . This school for the better classes of Chinese has been established by private enterprise. His Excellency considered that S. Stephen's College would meet the present additional educational requirement of the Colony. We trust therefore that our Chinese friends will in concert with the College Council soon devise some means for strengthening our foundations and rendering more effective our

teaching power. The subjects that have been taught in the classes during the year now closing comprise the following:—English language and grammar; composition and letter-writing; reading and dictation, writing and drawing, with lessons on common objects geography, and the history of the Middle Kingdom; arithmetic and algebra, Chinese, translation and the Holy Scriptures. During the first half year Mr. A. H. Mackenzie and Miss Fletcher (who kindly placed some hours daily at the disposal of the College Council) rendered untiring service in the several classes. After the summer vacation we had the additional good fortune to secure the services of Mr. J. Lewis Byrne, M.A., who in Great Britain, Canada and Australia had gained much experience and success in educational work. Such a staff of teachers seems to be out of all proportion to the numbers of scholars attending classes, but two considerations must be kept in view: first, though the pupils attending at one time through the year have never exceeded thirty-five, their standards of proficiency have varied greatly from the beginning; and, secondly, we have been working not for this year alone but for the future. Meanwhile, students have enjoyed the benefit of small classes and additional individual attention.

Some of our students, especially the elder ones, may not disregard the social claims that sometimes call them from their studies. But let us be more watchful that only absolutely necessary calls detain the scholar from taking his regular place in class. A clever boy was an easy first in several subjects for three-fourths of the year. During the last term his attendance, for family reasons, has been erratic, with the disappointing result that he has altogether lost his premier position in the final examination. This is but one case out of several. There are two features of our work which call for special mention. The Chinese student of English meets with peculiar difficulties both in pronunciation and in idiom. In order to meet these needs we employ only English masters for English subjects, and insist that all teaching shall be imparted in the English tongue, except occasionally when Chinese is used for explanation, more particularly in the earlier stages. This may appear at first sight to be the slower method, but experience proves that the constant use of English in imparting instruction is in itself a continual lesson in conversation, and without great effort the ears of the pupils become familiarised with the most common sounds, and progress is secured on more natural lines and with more gratifying results. Another special help is in the weekly written examination which is held every Saturday morning on one or other of the class subjects. Not only does this secure the frequent revision of each subject by the student, but it requires him to be able to put into writing what he has been learning, and is as helpful in its way for composition as the class work is for conversation. For beginners this is a hard task, but the excellent results obtained during the past year are the best justification for the practice. At the end of each half year the students' knowledge of the ground covered during the preceding period is further tested by more searching examinations. These are all carefully corrected, marked and returned, that the same kind of mistakes may not be repeated in future work. Many of our students, before they entered College, spent long years in the study of the native tongue and literature, and in some cases they have been successful in Chinese literary examinations. Such are not prosecuting their Chinese studies, except so far as they are used in translation. For others, who have not yet acquired a working knowledge of Chinese characters, classes have been formed under the instruction of Mr. Ng Tin Po, who joined the teaching staff after the summer holidays, bringing with him experience in tuition and the modern method in teaching and utilising the characters when learned. Something has been attempted in physical training and sports, but no great efficiency has yet been attained in this necessary branch of an all-round education. During the first half year, daily exercises were maintained, but for the past few months the work has been suspended, mainly for lack of suitable accommodation. Indeed, one of our urgent needs is a gymnasium and common

play-room, and until this is obtained we shall be hampered in all that makes for the development of a well proportioned physique. Our task, however, would be but poorly done did we neglect that character-building which is essential to the highest good of the individual and the community. We would not be satisfied simply to instruct our scholars: we want to educate them in the fullest sense of the term. For this reason we announced at the first that we were opening a Christian College to be as thorough in every department as circumstances will permit with a daily lesson from the Holy Scriptures. There is but one other matter; the prizes have been generously provided by the following kind donors: The Right Reverend the Bishop of Victoria, Mrs. Barnett, Mr. J. L. Byrne, Dr Ho Kai, Messrs. S. W. Tse, Chan Hewan, Hui Shun Chuen, Tso Tze Ki, Yip Shung Hing, Wong Ue Lam, Lo Cho Sun, Chan Chi ung, Wei Woh Seen, Wei On, Yip San Chi, Yau Shui, Fung Ku Shau, Chan King Ting, Lo Po Shan and Teo Hong Lim. We are grateful indeed for this kind help, and especially for the most sympathetic manner in which the prize fund has been raised. How to obtain suitable prizes was a harder task to face than getting the money for their purchase. We decided, however, not to give jewellery, but to follow the English custom of presenting books, and we have made the best selection possible from the limited supply to be found in Hongkong. Each reward represents a large amount of steady work on the part of the recipient and is a guarantee of progress, the pride of place having been decided by the weekly and the final examinations. The number of successful competitors has been lessened through the absence of some who found the attractions of the approaching New Year too powerful to withstand. We are sure that those scholars who have remained for special day will enjoy their holiday all the more for having done their duty nobly to the last.

Mr. BARNETT said that the Dux prize had been awarded for the final examination of eleven subjects. The winner was San Sai Wan, whose average for the whole number of subjects was 79.5.

HIS EXCELLENCY, having distributed the prizes, said:—My Lord Bishop, ladies and gentlemen,—One of the recommendations of the important commission that reported on education in 1902 was the institution of a high school for Chinese—that is to say, a school where instruction in the English language and western subjects for the sons of Chinese of the upper classes could be had. It is a source of great satisfaction to me, as representing the Government of this Colony, to see that, by private enterprise, this recommendation has found its fulfilment (applause). If for no other reason, you will understand that it leaves more money for the Government, with which to cater for educational interests in other directions (applause). I was very pleased to see from the report that in this school the principle of instructing in English subjects in the English tongue has been adopted. That is a principle that we are trying to carry out in our Government schools. We have already done something in that direction, but we cannot do as much as we would like to, because where a large number of schools are concerned, you will understand that the method is expensive. But still I think there can be only one opinion that it is the right way to teach English and English subjects. After all, it is the way that English people do when they want to learn Chinese or any tongue other than our own. An Englishman who learns Chinese from a Chinese teacher who knows not a single word of English, invariably, I think, makes far greater progress in the acquisition of the spoken language than does a man who thinks it is better and easier to employ a man who knows English. Therefore, I think the converse must hold good; I am sure it does hold good. There is one point that has struck me in the report just read, and it is that of all the many subjects enumerated as being taught in this school, English history is apparently missing. Now, I think that in every school where English is taught some English history should also be taught. It is but right that every student of English in this Colony should learn something of the

history of the race that has made the Colony, and that rules it (applause). I do not know whether any of you noticed the other day in the Legislative Council that a vote was taken for a sum of money to provide for visual instruction. It is a proposal that has been made by the home authorities, and the object is to increase the interest in the Empire generally in the Colonies. The method of procedure that is proposed will be of the following nature. We shall obtain from home a very powerful magic lantern and a large number of slides, illustrative of the seat of Government in England, the trade, the industry, the agriculture, and the social life of the mother country, and also some of the phases of life, industry and commerce of those Colonies that contribute to the fund. I think you will learn with pleasure that Hongkong, as usual, is in the forefront with its contribution, and I hope that before many months have passed to see this method of instruction introduced. Now, I am sure you will agree with me that instruction by means of the magic lantern, accompanied by lectures explaining the pictures which are exhibited, could not be properly understood by boys who have not had some instruction in the history of the Empire. But apart from that, I think that here could be no more edifying subject of study for boys of the Chinese race, especially boys belonging to the upper classes, than the history of an Empire whose system of government has been built up mainly by constitutional methods—an Empire of which it has been truly said that the sun never sets upon its territories—an Empire whose people though the most free in the world are characterised by their undying devotion and loyalty to the throne and person of their sovereign (applause). And now I would like to notice one thing in the report that has given me personally a great deal of satisfaction. It is that in this school, though the scholars of the Chinese race at any rate are not Christians, instruction is given in the Holy Scriptures. You know that we Westerners, although we are not Confucianists, are not so foolish as not to inform ourselves of the writings of the great Chinese sages. Many valuable truths are inculcated in these writings, and I venture to think that Chinese, although they have no intention of becoming Christians, will receive great benefit from the study of the great Truth that forms the subject of Holy Writ. In wishing you, boys, a very pleasant holiday after your year's work, may I impress upon you what Mr. Barnett has urged you to correct in his report. I mean your want of regular attendance. More than twenty years ago one of my greatest friends was a professor in the College at Peking for teaching western knowledge to the inhabitants of that city, and in several conversations with him he deplored the great difficulty that he found in getting his pupils regularly to attend his classes. So, you see, the fault is an old one, and it exists in the capital of the Chinese Empire, even as it does in this school to-day. I hope you boys will show your compatriots in the northern capital that it is to the interest of every scholar to attend his classes with regularity (applause).

BISHOP HOARE said he was sure he was speaking for all present in thanking H.E. for his attendance, especially as, as he had seen by the papers, H.E. was so busy. It showed that H.E. was in sympathy with them.

Mr. BARNETT said, with reference to his Excellency's remark that English history seemed to be missing from the school's curriculum, that he found that most of the boys showed a lamentable lack of knowledge of their own country's history, and that he decided to give them six months' tuition in their own country's history, before giving them a course of English history. An amount of history however, had been imparted with the assistance of a map of the Empire.

Three cheers were given for H.E.; three for the Bishop; and three for the head-master.

Hongkong footballers will be glad to hear that Mr. W. W. Clark, last year's Rugby captain of the H.K.F.C., distinguished himself not a little in a match between his old club, Glasgow High School F.P., and Clyde-dale. The Glasgow papers say that Clark played in great style and scored a try from a brilliant dribble.

KOON HEW FREE SCHOOL.

The ceremony of presenting the prizes at the Koon Hew Free School, Bonham Strand West, was performed on the 2nd inst. by Mr. Lo Koon Ting. The report of Mr. Chan Hewan (the superintendent, showed that the school had accommodation for 200 pupils. Five masters had been engaged and the school was opened for two hours each evening, the upkeep amounting to about \$3000 a year. Since Mr. C. Kent had resigned the headmastership his place had been taken by Mr. Kwok Ying Kun, who was assisted by four assistant masters. The work of the school had got the commendation of many people, including Captain Robinson of the *Stanley*, and Mr. G. R. Smithers, Police Magistrate of Sydney. Several boys out of the school had good positions with the Government and with mercantile firms. Mr. Kwong Wa Tai, M.A., conducted the examinations with the following results:—Class I—1, Tang Shing Cheung; 2, Sham Wai; 3, Chung Ohn Ngan; Ching Sik Lun (English into Chinese); and Wong Kam Ying (Chinese into English). Class II—1, Mak Ping Fui; 2, Yan Kam Ching; 3, Lau King Ching. Class III—1, Lui Man Tan; 2, Chan Leung; 3, Lui man Sui. Class IV—1, Shi Yung Shang; 2, Lui Man Sit; 3, Wong Ying Tong. Class V—1, Lui Ping Chung; 2, Shi Shan Chi; 3, Lo Ping Sham. Class V.B.—Chan Ki Shui; 2, Chang Ping Tong; 3, Cheung Wa Cho. The management thanked the following subscribers to the prize fund:—Captain W. Robinson, Captain L. H. Richards, Mr. J. R. Chapman, Captain and Mrs. E. J. Page, Captain R. Lincoln, Captain and Mrs. W. M. Mason, Mr. E. J. Moses, Captain W. H. Lunt, Captain J. Whitelaw, Mr. J. Weir, Captain J. A. Pratt, Captain A. A. Crawford, Mr. Jean Trevoux and Mr. A. Bunne.

NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LD.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

The thirteenth ordinary annual general meeting of shareholders in the above bank was held at the offices of the Bank, Victoria Buildings, at noon on the 30th ult. Those present were Mr. J. Scott Harston (Chairman), and Messrs. Chiu Kit Shau, G. C. Moxon, Julius Focke (directors), G. W. F. Playfair (chief manager), C. Ewens, E. Kadoorie, P. C. Potts, E. W. Terry, H. Pinckney, J. R. Michael, Chan Ki, Fung Wa Chun, and others.

Mr. G. W. PLAYFAIR having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, in submitting to you the report and accounts for the past year, which, with your permission, will, as usual, be taken as read, I would point out that our gross profits show an increase. This is all the more satisfactory as the past year showed very heavy fluctuations in exchange following on the decision to rectify the Straits currency and to establish the peso in the Philippines, while the close of the year was darkened by the probabilities of hostilities between two neighbouring Powers, disturbing exchange and making trade difficult and disturbed. You will observe that charges account has increased, but that was inevitable, as the falling exchange necessitated our placing the salaries of our European staff on a sterling basis. In other respects the figures in the accounts speak for themselves and do not show much variation from last year. We have written a further \$5,000 off furniture account, which now remains at merely the nominal figure of \$10,000. In the Chairman's speech last year we alluded to the prospect of by one means or another bringing our capital into line with the reduced value of exchange; but heavy fluctuations in the past year still make it difficult for us to formulate a scheme for submission to your approval. We have not lost sight of the matter, however, and hope to refer to it again at the earliest opportunity. I propose to make a few remarks to you in relation to the prospect financial and otherwise. I make these remarks because I think they ought to be made at some public meeting in Hongkong. As you all know it is common talk that Hongkong possesses, and will

continue to possess, natural geographical advantages, and that it cannot possess any rival in its own sphere (Applause.) That is all very well, but it is not an absolutely determining factor. Hongkong must remain a free port. It is a barter market or pawn shop for trade; it has no local industries, and is not a producing centre. It is a junction for the re-distribution of trade and cargo traffic in general, and its stability depends upon its ability to attract commerce. It possesses a fine harbour, and in the course of the last fifty years it has developed very fine storage capacities. But now its position is threatened by the development of Canton, by the substantial development of Canton. Now, gentlemen, if Canton is properly developed, as it may be by the advantage of the Canton-Hankow railway, which will place it in rapid communication with the northern trade, it will make a very bold bid, and I think it may possibly succeed in wresting from Hongkong the supremacy which it now enjoys. Canton has advantages over Hongkong in several respects; the labour is cheap there, and the Chinese are free from Sanitary Boards and their restrictions, and this may lead to a possible departure of local trade from Hongkong to Canton. It behoves the leaders in Hongkong to consider, and after due consideration to take steps to leave Hongkong absolutely free from any attack in that direction.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL—In view of what you have said about the trade of Canton, do you recommend the bank to open a branch there?

The CHAIRMAN—I am not prepared to deal with the question properly yet. I simply made a few remarks which I think ought to have been made. I now propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. ELLIS KADOORIE seconded and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Since the report was issued Mr. G. C. Moxon has been elected a director instead of Mr. Chow Tung Shang—this you are now asked to confirm and to re-elect Mr. Moxon for the coming term of service. I also propose that the elections of Messrs. Harston, Focke, and Moxon be now confirmed, and that Mr. Moxon be re-elected a member of the Hongkong Board and Mr. Stuart Wortley a member of the London Committee.

Mr. TERRY seconded and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to propose that the place of Mr. William Wotton as a director and member of the London Board, or Advisory Committee of Directors, who retires at this meeting under Article 133, be not filled up, and that the London Committee shall be reduced to two instead of three (under article 137), thus altering the minimum number hitherto authorised by article 115. You will remember, gentlemen, that this was passed at last meeting, but as our London solicitors were of opinion that notice ought to have been given it has now been brought up again this year and proper notice given both in England and Hongkong.

Mr. EWENS seconded and the proposal was carried.

Mr. P. C. POTTS—I beg to propose that Mr. R. C. Wilcox and Mr. A. R. Lowe, chartered accountants, be re-elected auditors to act jointly, or severally at a remuneration of \$300 each, or \$500 for a single audit; also that Messrs. Deloitte, Dever, Griffiths & Co. be re-elected auditors in London at the same remuneration as before.

Mr. CHAN KI seconded and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—There is no further business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be issued on Monday. Thank you for your attendance.

After quoting our Port Arthur correspondent's communication with regard to the disappearance of Mr. Sydney George Reilly in Japan, the *Kobe Chronicle* says:—In justice to the Japanese authorities, who have been doing their utmost, to trace the whereabouts of Mr. Reilly, we may say that it is now regarded as certain that Mr. Reilly left Japan almost immediately after his arrival and proceeded to Hongkong. His reasons for taking this course are unknown, but that he left the country immediately after writing the letter referred to above [in our correspondent's article] seems certain.

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO

STEAMBOAT CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Company, Ltd., was held on the 6th inst. at the Company's offices, Wyndham Street, at noon. Hon. C. W. Dickson presided, and there were also present: Messrs. N. A. Siebs, E. Goetz, H. E. Tomkins, A. Haupt, E. R. Fuhrmann, C. A. Tomes, F. A. Gomes, H. Schubart (Directors), Thos. Arnold (Secretary), J. R. Michael, J. Arnold, R. C. Wilcox, J. W. Noble, Captain W. A. Clarke, E. J. Moses, W. G. Winterburn, G. T. Veitch, T. S. Forrest, and J. Barton.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I propose that as usual the report and accounts be taken as read. Your directors regret to have to come before you with so much poorer results than they have been in the habit of presenting to you of late years. The cause of this heavy falling off in our profits is already well known to you. Constantly increasing opposition on all the lines of our trade has obliged us to cut rates in many directions to an unremunerative point, and a new feature of the trade with which we now have to contend is the competition of subsidised and bounty-fed foreign steamers. Fortunately, our equalisation fund set aside for the purpose enables us, for a time at least, to maintain our usual dividend. The principle of imposing disabilities on foreign shipping, corresponding to the support they receive from their Government in the shape of subsidies, is in accord with the policy now being so ably advocated by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, and we can only hope the day is not far distant when that principle will be applied in this Colony where British trade is struggling against such unfair competition (hear, hear.) Our new steamer *Kinsan* has been running for some months and has proved herself to be well suited to the trade. The triple daily service to and from Canton has not yet been so successful from a financial point of view as we could wish, but our experience in the past has been, that it generally takes a year or two for an extra steamer to make a trade for herself, and we confidently anticipate that, as time goes on, the outlay on this fine vessel will be justified by an increased volume of business. The new steamer for the West River trade has been launched, and it is expected, will be ready for service in two or three months. In addition to this boat, the Company has on joint account with the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company and the China Navigation Company acquired a steam-lighter specially designed for the West River trade, which was imported in pieces and is now being put together in the Colony. It is in contemplation to resume the direct trade between this Colony and the West River as soon as these two craft are completed. The accounts cover the usual items of receipts and expenditure. You will observe that the interest earned on investments is some \$8,000 less than it was the previous half-year; this is partially owing to the withdrawal of funds from investment for building purposes, but principally, to the larger amount received for annual as well as half yearly dividends on shares during the first six months of the year, the usual practice of carrying a portion of these over to the second half-year having been inadvertently departed from. I think the other items explain themselves sufficiently, and unless further information be desired I will propose the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

There were no questions.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. R. C. WILCOX—I cannot on this occasion repeat the somewhat stereotyped phrase that I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and statement of accounts; I do so as a duty, with regrets that circumstances have been so adverse and results so meagre, comparatively speaking. The remarks made by the Chairman as to the new subsidised competition we have now to meet will, I am sure, be endorsed, not only by the shareholders in this company, but by all those interested in Colonial shipping. This Company is accustomed to competi-

tion—has accepted it as a matter of course. The river was open to all, and the competition was, until quite recently, on equal terms. Within the past few years, however, the shadow of coming events was visible in the form of a small subsidy given to certain Chinese craft flying the French flag. Now we have steamers on the river running hence built in France, and receiving a subsidy which practically ensures them against loss. We do not ask for any advantages for this Company's steamers; we should not get a subsidy if we did ask for it; but it seems to me that we have a right to stipulate that competitors who come here to fight for a share of our loaf should, at least, be asked to strip off their coat of mail before being allowed to enter the lists (applause). With these few remarks I beg to second the adoption of the report and accounts.

The motion was agreed to.

On the motion of Dr. NOBLE, seconded by Mr. MICHAEL, the appointment of Mr. C. A. Tomes to the directorate was confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN proposed and Mr. VILCH seconded the re-election of Messrs. A. O'D. Gourdin and W. H. Potts as auditors.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. WILCOX—If I am in order I should like to propose the following resolution:—"That copies of the minutes of this meeting be forwarded to the Colonial Secretary with the request that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government will be pleased to transmit the same to the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with such representations thereon as he may think fit to offer." I think that this is advisable in order to give due effect to the remarks that have been made with regard to subsidies.

Mr. MICHAEL said he had much pleasure in seconding this resolution. After the remarks of the Chairman and Mr. Wilcox he did not think it was necessary to say anything further, but he was sure they would all agree that steps should be taken to bring this question to the attention of the authorities.

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—The proper steps will be taken, gentlemen, to carry the resolution into effect. I have only to add that the dividend warrants will be ready on Monday.

HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING CO., LD.

TWENTIETH ORDINARY MEETING.

The twentieth ordinary general meeting of the above company was held at the offices of the company, 14, Des Vœux Road, at 11 a.m. on the 6th inst. Those present were Mr. C. A. Tomes (chairman), and Messrs. A. J. Raymond, D. E. Brown, J. H. Lewis, G. H. Potts, G. W. F. Playfair, Dr. Noble, A. Babington, E. Haskell, and R. Henderson (Secretary).

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, the CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen:—I propose to adopt the usual course and omit the reading of the report, which has been before you several days. The result of the year's working approximates that of last year. We declare the usual dividend (the same as we have paid for three years), and the allowance for depreciation, the transfer to reserve, and the carry-forward are all very much as before. This has been accomplished by our having made a larger turn-over. We regret that the cost of the raw material has been maintained at the late high level; in fact, we have bought clearer hemp this year than ever before, and the margin between it and the selling price of rope has narrowed again. Our percentage of profit is therefore smaller, but it makes competition with us more difficult for the Japanese and other manufacturers. The output of hemp in the Philippines last year was the largest on record, over one million bales, but the consumption seems to keep pace well with this increased production. There has been no notable change in our business, the steady demand for rope for shipping uses having continued. We have made fewer special ropes for oil-boring than before, but the enquiry for them never reached important figures. Some falling off is noted in the consumption of baling in the North, and this is accounted for by consumers finding iron bands more suited to their purpose and by a decreased export of

hides and similar merchandise. The Philippine Tariff Bill, exempting hemp shipped by direct bottoms to the United States from export duty, has not affected our business to any appreciable extent. It has enabled California manufacturers to enter the Australian market and so increased competition there, but our share of that trade is not of great importance. The British and some of the Continental Governments have entered protests at Washington against that particular piece of legislation, as contrary to the declared "open door" policy of the United States in regard to the Philippines. We are sceptical, however, of any useful issue of this protest, unless the bill can be proved to be in violation of treaty. A mere appeal for consistency I fear will not be cogent enough to force a repeal of the law in these days of so much popular discussion of closed doors and retaliation. The ostensible object of the bill was to promote Philippine trade and to benefit the American farmer. I venture to say nothing has been gained towards these ends, although consumption, it is true, has increased, but the American cordage industry has been able in 1903 to get its supply of hemp for half a million dollars gold less than it would otherwise have done, and this at the expense of the nation generally. The factory and its machinery have been kept in a thoroughly efficient state, and we anticipate no call in the immediate future for expenditure on increased plant. The machinery was in operation last year only 223 days out of the 300 odd working days, so we have some room for expansion yet to meet increased calls for our manufacture.

Not questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. PLAYFAIR seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. POTTS proposed, and Dr. NOBLE seconded, the re-election of Messrs. A. J. Raymond, D. E. Brown, and J. H. Lewis to the consulting committee, which was carried.

Mr. LEWIS proposed, and Mr. BROWN seconded, that Messrs. T. Arnold and W. H. Potts be re-elected auditors, which was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Dividend warrants will be ready this afternoon. That is all the business; thank you for your attendance.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The following is the seventy-seventh report of the court of directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of Shareholders to be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on Saturday, the 20th February, at noon.

Gentlemen,—The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the Bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 31st December, 1903.

The net profits for that period, including \$1,435,683.17, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, amount to \$3,771,886.08.

The directors recommend the transfer of \$500,000 from the profit and loss account to credit of the silver reserve fund, which fund will then stand at \$6,500,000.

After making this transfer and deducting remuneration to directors there remains for appropriation \$3,256,886.08, out of which the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of one pound and ten shillings sterling per share, which at 4/6 will absorb \$533,333.33, and a bonus of ten shillings sterling per share, which at 4/6 will absorb \$177,777.78.

The difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend and bonus are declared, and 1/8d, the rate of the day, amounts to \$1,128,408.89.

The balance \$1,417,366.08 to be carried to new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. A. J. Raymond has been elected chairman for the year 1904 and Mr. H. E. Tomkin Deputy Chairman.

The Honourable R. Shawan having resigned his seat on leaving the Colony, Mr. C. A. Tomes has been invited to fill the vacancy; the appointment requires confirmation at this Meeting.

Mr. E. Goetz and the Honourable C. W. Dickson retire in rotation, but being eligible for re-election offer themselves accordingly.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. W. Hutton Potts and Mr. A. G. Wood, the latter acting for Honourable C. S. Sharp who is absent from the Colony.

Honourable C. S. Sharp, who is shortly returning to the Colony, and Mr. W. Hutton Potts offer themselves for re-election.

The accounts are as follows:—
ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

31st DECEMBER, 1903.	
Paid-up capital.....	10,000,000.00
Sterling reserve fund.....	10,000,000.00
Silver reserve fund.....	6,000,000.00
Marine Insurance account.....	250,000.00
Authorized issue against securities deposited with the crown agents for the colonies.....	\$10,000,000.00
Additional issue authorised by Hongkong Ordinance No. 19 of 1900, against coin lodged with the Hongkong Government.....	6,259,244.00
	16,259,244.00
Current accounts:—	
Silver.....	\$74,787,644.85
Gold, £1,945,897.5s.3d. =	22,331,487.89
	97,119,132.74
Fixed deposits	
Silver.....	\$46,121,565.85
Gold, £4,991,925.5s.7d. =	87,387,016.14
	103,508,581.99
Bills payable (including drafts on London bankers call loans and short sight drawings on London office against bills receivable and bullion shipments).....	20,832,914.55
Profit and loss account.....	3,771,886.08
Liability on bills of exchange re-discounted, £6,019,859. 7s. 4d. of which up to this date £4,323,093 have run off.	
	\$27,791,759.36
Cash.....	\$38,366,269.91
Coin lodged with the Hongkong Government against note circulation in excess of 10,000,000.....	8,500,000.00
Bullion in hand and in transit.....	7,824,187.16
Indian Government rupee paper.....	1,917,91.12
Consols, colonial and other securities	8,784,477.89
Sterling reserve fund investments, viz:—	
£57.00 2½ per cent. Consols at 85.....	£484,500
(of which £250,000 lodged with the Bank of England as a Special London reserve.)	
£255.00 2½ per cent. National War Loan at 9½.....	229,500
£325,000 other sterling securities written down to.....	286,000
	\$1,000,000
Bills discounted, loans and credits.....	89,900,177.72
Bills receivable.....	101,142,859.03
Bank premises.....	1,855,878.53
	\$267,791,759.36

GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT. 31st December, 1903.

Dr.	\$	c.
To amount written off:—		
Remuneration to Directors.....	15,000.00	
To dividend account:—		
£1 10s. per share on 80,000 shares =		
£120,000 at 4s. 6d.	\$633,333.33	
Bonus of 10s per share on 80,000 shares = £40,000 at 4s. 6d.	177,777.78	711,111.11
To dividend adjustment account:—		
Difference in exchange between 4s. 6d., the rate at which the dividend and bonus are declared, and 1s. 8½d. the rate of the day.....	1,128,408.89	
To transfer to silver reserve fund.....	500,000.00	
To balance forward to next half-year.....	1,417,366.08	
	\$3,771,886.08	
	\$	c.
By balance of undivided profits, 30th June, 1903.....	1,435,683.17	
By amount of net profits for the six months ending 31st December, 1903, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, deducting all expenses and interest paid and due.....	2,336,202.91	
	3,771,886.08	
	\$3,771,886.08	

STERLING RESERVE FUND.

To balance	\$10,000,000.00
By balance 30th June 1903	10,000,000.00
(Invested in sterling securities)	
SILVER RESERVE FUND.	
To balance	\$8,500,000.00
By balance 30th June, 1903	8,000,000.00
By transfer from profit and loss account	500,000.00

HUMPHREYS' ESTATE AND FINANCE CO., LD.

The following is the report of the directors for the year ending the 31st December, 1903, for presentation to the shareholders at the eighteenth ordinary annual general meeting of the Company, to be held at the registered offices of the Company, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central, at noon on Wednesday, the 10th February:—

The directors now beg to submit to you their report and statement of accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1903.

The net profit for that period amounts to \$96,732.29
To which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account, 12,117.97

And from this have to be deducted—
Remuneration to directors
5 per cent. commission on net profits \$4,836.61
Remuneration to general managers commission on net profits 4,836.61

Leaving available for appropriation \$99,177.04
The directors recommend that a dividend of 90 cents or nine per cent. on the paid-up capital be paid to the shareholders, and the balance of \$9,177.04 be carried to new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Hon. C. S. Sharp having resigned, Mr. A. G. Wood was invited to fill the vacancy and accepted a seat on the Board. In accordance with rule 76 of the articles of association, Messrs. J. S. Van Buren, C. Ewens, H. W. Slade, A. G. Wood, and Ho Tung retire, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Gaskell and W. Hutton Potts, who offer themselves for re-election.

The accounts are as follows:—

BALANCE-SHEET.

For the year ending 31st December, 1903.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital account 100,000 shares at \$10		1,000,000.00	
Insurance reserve fund		200,607.31	
Fund for equalisation of dividends		50,000.00	
Unclaimed dividends		2,248.30	
Sundry creditors		224,681.73	
Profit and loss account:—			
Amount carried forward from 1902		12,117.97	
For the year 1903		96,732.29	
		108,850.26	
		\$1,586,876.60	

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Amount invested in property		969,996.96	
Amount invested on mortgage		445,040.65	
Accounts receivable		169,848.30	
Fire insurance premium unexpired		959.75	
Office furniture		500.00	
Cash in hand		51.94	
		\$1,586,387.60	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

31st Dec., 1903.	Dr.	\$	c.
To general charges		2,964.43	
To Crown rent		2,731.11	
To fire insurance		5,046.64	
To repairs		1,863.60	
To allowance to general managers to cover office rent and salaries of secretary and clerks		4,000.00	
To balance		108,850.26	
		\$125,462.44	

1st Jan., 1903.	Cr.	\$	c.
By amount carried forward for 1902		12,117.97	
31st Dec., 1903.			
By rents		67,217.22	
By interest		28,667.34	
By commission		295.93	
By transfer fees		274.00	
By profit on sales of properties		17,293.93	
		\$125,462.44	

HONGKONG ICE CO., LD.

The following is the twenty-third annual report of the above company.

The general managers have pleasure in submitting statement of the company's accounts for the year 1903.

Including \$3,632.06 brought forward from the previous year, and after deducting \$20,000 paid as an interim dividend of \$4 per share, the balance at credit of profit and loss account is \$100,844.57, which it is recommended should be appropriated at follows:—

A final dividend of \$12 per share	\$ 62,000.00
Provision for contingencies	35,000.00
To carry forward	5,444.57
	\$100,844.57

The accounts are as follows:—

ASSETS.		\$	c.
Property account		103,000.00	
Extension account		41,750.88	
Invested in:—			
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.'s share		225.00	
China Fire Insurance Co.'s share		85.00	
Canton Insurance Office's share		120.00	
Cash on hand		23.61	
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on current account		71,290.08	
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank on deposit		20,000.00	
Outstanding accounts		6,146.40	
Accounts receivable		394.81	
Ice in stock		180.00	
Coal in stock		360.00	
Fire insurance, unexpired premium		160.70	
		\$248,736.48	

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital		125,000.00	
Accounts payable		11,765.48	
Ammonia reserve account		11,126.43	
Profit and loss account		100,844.57	
		\$248,736.48	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	\$	c.
To salaries, wages, and general trade expenses	41,987.66	
To general managers' commission	2,000.00	
To auditor's fee	150.00	
	44,137.66	
To interim dividend of 16 per cent. paid on 28th July, 1903	20,000.00	
To balance	100,844.57	
	\$164,982.23	

By balance brought forward from last year	3,632.06
By receipts for ice and cold storage	157,289.69
By rents received (less Crown rent and taxes paid)	2,393.46
By interest	1,655.02
By transfer fees	12.00
	\$164,982.23

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 1st February.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

DISPUTE ABOUT THE CHARTER OF A STEAMER.

Li Shek Pang, 115, Wing Lok Street, sued Yung Chi Hoi, 9, Queen's Road Central, and Pun Tse Yan, 90, Connaught Road, for \$1059.22 restricted to \$1000, plaintiff claiming this sum from Yung Chi Hoi as charterer under and from Pun Tse Yan as guarantor of the charter-party dated 12th June, 1903, being the balance of money due for the charter of the s.s. *Emma Luyken* from the plaintiff. Mr. H. W. Looker, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors, for the defendants.

Mr. Looker said the plaintiff was an owner or charterer of steamers. He chartered them to various people for various purposes; amongst others he made a charter of the steamer *Emma Luyken* to the defendant Yung Chi Hoi to carry passengers from Hoihao to Singapore. They entered into a charter-party on which he was suing. It was an agreement by which this steamer was to be hired or chartered or taken by the defendant, who had to guarantee 650 passengers at least; suppose he carried only

a very small number of passengers he had to pay for 650. In the event of the number reaching 650 Yung Chi Hoi agreed to pay full compensation. It was a guarantee that he would pay for 650 passengers unless the regulations prevented the ship from carrying 650, in which case there would be a reduction. If there were more than 650 the passage-money was to be reduced. The intention of asking the defendant to guarantee 650 was clear. It was not intended to charge the steamer and take remuneration according to the number of passengers, for the defendant might have put only a few passengers on board and they might have sent down their steamer for some \$200 or \$300. Therefore it was provided that 650 should be guaranteed. As a matter of fact 505 passengers were carried; 31 were got from Hongkong. According to the Hongkong passage licence the steamer could carry 732 passengers altogether, and according to her emigration licence—that was for a voyage of over seven days—she could carry the full 650. It seemed to him that the case was reduced to this—Was it an agreement that the defendant should pay for 650 whether they went or not, or was he only to pay for the actual number of those who did go?

Mr. Grist said this was not exactly the position of matters. He did not read this agreement as a charter-party. It was not a charter to them in any shape or form; it was purely an agreement that they would send this ship from Hoihao and that defendant would guarantee 650 passengers.

His Lordship—What is the difference?

Mr. Grist said that the ship was not handed over to them and therefore it was not a charter-party. The agreement was wrongly described as a charter. He would not take objection on that point, however. Defendant's contention was that he could have carried 650 passengers but was prevented from doing so by the action of the plaintiff.

Evidence was then taken.

His Lordship gave judgment for the defendant and costs.

Thursday, 4th February.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR A. G. WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE).

A LIBEL ACTION.

T. Elvins, late superintendent of the Dock Company's watchmen, sued Kalla Singh and seventeen other Indian watchmen for \$500 for libel contained in a letter dated November, 1903, and sent by them to Mr. W. Wilson, manager of the Docks. Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. E. J. Grist of Messrs. Wilkinson & Grist, solicitors), appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. P. W. Goring of Mr. J. Hastings, solicitor), for the defendants.

In his statement of claim it was stated that plaintiff was until his suspension from duty employed in the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company at Hungnam as superintendent of watchmen and resided there. Defendants were watchmen in the same Company, and it was plaintiff's duty to look after them and see that they did their work properly and efficiently and to report any breach of duty on their part to Mr. W. Wilson, the manager. Plaintiff had suffered damages by the defendants falsely and maliciously writing and publishing of and concerning plaintiff a letter sent to Mr. Wilson dated 25th November, 1903. The letter was as follows:—"Sir,—We Indian watchmen staff of the Dock hereby report to you that until we are better and fairly treated by head watchman, Mr. Elvins, we will all resign from the Company's employment. Mr. Elvins is nothing but a downright rascal and rogue. How is it that he allows those Portuguese watchmen of his at gate, smoke, sit down, and sleep while on duty without reporting the matter to you or even find them one cent, but if it was any of us Indian found doing so he would get us discharged or find \$2 or \$3 which we know very well you don't hear of it but all the same he finds us and pocket the money. He has always been getting money from us ever since he joined the Company again, but since

we have stopped giving him any more money or cumsaw when every new Indian is taken on, he has turn on us and does his uttermost in getting us into trouble and make such lying reports about us to you. Therefore, instance the No. 3 has lent him \$30) and more and Mr. T. Elvins promised him he will look after him and do him a good turn, and that is how he does it the swindler after has got the money. Mr. Wilson, Mr. Wilson, sir, we are very sorry to tell you this but we can't help it. Mr. Elvins has driven us to it, that he the said Mr. T. Elvins has been receiving bribes of \$20 to \$30 from the sweepers of the yard for allowing them to carry off the sweepings to the dust-boat from the shop with cuttings of brass, iron and steel. This can be proved if you will take the trouble and see it for yourself and also he receive bribes from the night-soil men that carry the soil out of the yard in the morning by allowing them to do the same. He charged the one, the other day, for stealing brass from the moulder shop because the coolies did not give him any money; the case would not have been heard of it if he had got the money he wanted from the man by his Chinese detective. That detective was a bad man, Mr. Wilson, same as Ah Mau, all the time squeezing money himself. As for Mr. Elvin where his wife got so many fancy and new dresses—a new dress every other day—all from the money he got out of the Indians and what squeezes he got from his Chinese detective Mr. Wilson, do you allow Mr. Gomes to interfere in the office with what the Indian watchmen doing and saying what for you report to Mr. Wilson, Portuguese watchmen no good; bye and bye all belong Portuguese, Indian men all finished; also Mr. Silva of the boiler shop has been interfering also with the Indian too. This is Mr. Elvins doing, teaching them what to say and go against the Indian and by and bye all the Indian will leave and get the Portuguese instead. No. 3 watchmen can tell you this what they have been saying. Mr. Wilson, if things do not change we will have to resign and let Mr. Elvin get all his Portuguese. It will please him and his wife will be able to ride in a carriage and pairs and the Company then will see how they like the Portuguese. There is no other Indian will come to this employment and it is so hard to employ them, because it is known all over Hongkong the rascally way Mr. Elvins treats his Indian watchmen. P.S.—We all the watchmen are ready if you want to swear us that he always wants bribe from us, and if not please get him to swear when he was sick living at Tsim Sha Tsim he called three of us in his house and asked us to give money or if not when he rejoined he will send us away. Then we three men went in his house and paid him \$100. You want man who may speak English but when one is employed Mr. Elvin do dismiss him because he says that any man who speaks English do not do his duty properly, and to you he reports that no Indians able to speak and understand English and therefore he keeps Portuguese on gates. Portuguese will never do as good duty as Indians." In consequence of the defamatory expressions contained in the letter plaintiff had been and was greatly injured in his credit and reputation and has been suspended by his employers until he could clear himself from the charges which the defendants made against him in the letter. Plaintiff claimed \$500 damages.

In their statement of defence the defendants admitted that they wrote and published to Mr. W. Wilson, the manager of the Docks, the letter complained of, but pleaded that they did so without malice, and bona-fide believing all the statements contained in it to be true. It was the duty of the defendants and to their common interests and those of the Company for the defendants to make complaint to and request investigation by Mr. W. Wilson of the matters set out in the letter. They also pleaded privilege.

Hon. Mr. Pollock said it was for the defendants to begin as it lay upon the party making defamatory statements regarding another in such cases to prove the truth of these statements if he could, or if he tried to justify them by saying he believed them to be true it was not for the plaintiff to prove negatively that he had not committed certain corrupt or fraudulent acts.

Mr. Slade said that when a plea of privilege was made the onus fell upon the plaintiff to prove express malice on the part of the defendants. They said they were privileged because of the relation between the three parties—the defendants, the plaintiff and the man to whom this communication was made.

His Lordship stated that would require proof of the alleged privilege.

Mr. Slade said he would call evidence to prove that ever since Elvins joined the Dock Company he had systematically squeezed the watchmen and that he received money from the Chinese sweepers.

Evidence was then given.

At four o'clock the hearing was adjourned until Monday next.

Wednesday, 3rd February.

IN PROBATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR WILLIAM M. GOODMAN (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A FORGED WILL.

In Ho Kam, alias Ho Nai Kam, against Ho Nai Cheong, plaintiff, prayed to have the letters of administration with the will annexed of the pretended will of Ho Lin Shing, his father, deceased, dated 12th July, 1903, revoked and the will declared null and void; and to have letters of administration granted to him. Hon. H. E. Pollock, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. R. Harding, of Messrs. Ewins and Hurston, solicitors), appeared for the plaintiff.

It appeared that the father of the plaintiff, Ho Lin Shing, died intestate on 12th October, 1899, on board the s.s. *Konghing* on his way to Canton. Letters of administration were granted to his widow, Lan Shi, in Macao. Ho Lin Shing left property in Hongkong, namely the Yee Wo pawnshop in Hollywood Road, and no administration was applied for. Plaintiff with a manager was in charge of the shop, and had been so ever since. One of the younger sons, the defendant, wanted to borrow money, and he offered his share in the pawnshop for security, but the friend whom he had approached in the matter found that the shop was registered in the name of the plaintiff and the manager, and told him he could not accept his share as security. The friend suggested that he might get over the difficulty by making a false will and applying for probate of his father's estate, and said that if he agreed to this he would make the will for him. Shortly afterwards he was taken to a solicitor's office and was asked to sign the petition for probate of the false will and also to sign some other documents. Letters of administration were granted as a result. Defendant was then introduced to a man called Lam Tan Chiu, and it was arranged that he should sell two-fifths of the business to him for \$3400. He signed a contract to that effect. Lam Tan Chiu instead of becoming the purchaser himself got a woman called Lam Shi to purchase this share of the business. She subsequently issued a writ against defendant for a dissolution of partnership and for the taking of an account of the pawnshop. Of this matter plaintiff came to know and took these proceedings accordingly.

His Lordship after hearing counsel and witnesses, granted the petition, with costs.

The following appointments have been made at the Admiralty:—Captains.—F. G. Kirby, to the *Leviathan*, to date Jan. 11; the Hon. W. G. Stopford, to the *Glory*, as Flag Captain to Vice-Admiral Sir G. Noel, undated. Commander.—R. W. Bentinek, to the *Glory*, to date Jan. 7, and for special service on recommissioning. Lieutenants.—C. P. Metcalfe, to the *Kinsha* on recommissioning; F. J. B. Gibson and G. B. Alexander, to the *Waterwitch*. J. O. Barron to the *Eclipse*, additional, G. Bashford, to the *Amphitrite*, R. A. Wilson, to the *Talbot*, H. L. Shephard, to the *Glory*, A. D. Grant, to the *Cressy*, R. D. Foster-Forbes, to the *Tamar*, for the *Virago*. Staff Paymaster.—A. R. Parker, to the *Glory*, as secretary to Vice-Adm. Sir G. Noel to date Jan. 15. Assistants to Paymasters.—J. P. Ratcliff, G. B. Osborne, and T. Johnson and C. Prior, to the *Glory*, as secretary's clerks to date Jan. 15.

SPORTING NOTES.

(Daily Press, 30th January.)

The return match between the H.K.C.C. and the Garrison takes place on the Cricket Ground at noon to-day. The first game this season was played on the 14th November, when, after all prospects were deemed in favour of the Club, the Garrison, thanks to execrable fielding on the part of the opponents, ran up a score of 178 (Capt. Radcliffe 74, Lieut. Smith 29, Lieut. Hodgson 20) and got nine Club wickets down for 141. Then came the sensational stand between Mast and Lowe, which stands out amid the features of the present season. In a bad light both batsmen hit the military bowlers all over the field, brought the scores level, and went on until 196 was reached, when Lowe was caught and bowled. Mast carried his bat for 43 and was chaired into the pavilion. We can look for no such excitement to-day, but the game should be worth seeing. The Garrison has six out of the XI, who so nearly proved successful in November, and of the other five some are almost new to the Colony. I should mention, by the way, that I was in error in saying that Corporal Bradford, A.O.C., left on the *Dilwara*. He is still here to take wickets. The H.K.C.C. side to-day is decidedly an experimental one, though it contains a lot of all-round strength.

On the football field the Rugby game between the Club and H.M.S. *Albion* will be the chief event. As the former's three-quarter line is quite problematical (the departure of Barnes being severely felt), it looks as if the naval men will have to be beaten forward if the match is to be saved. But, of course, Messrs "S. O. Else" and "A. N. Other" may surprise their comrades. Turning to the Association game, the *Cressy* and R. E. teams should meet to-day, the last day for the first round of the Shield, but the *Cressy* is still up north. It has not yet been decided whether to extend the date so as to allow the *Cressy* to play. Otherwise the draw for the second round will be as follows:—*Albion* v. *Tamar*, *Leviathan* v. R.A., H.K.C.C. v. *Ocean*, *Sherwood Foresters* v. R.E., the first-named club in each case having choice of ground.

This week's hockey has been interesting. On Monday the Club lost to the *Ocean* (0-2); on Wednesday the 93rd Burmas beat the *Ocean* (6-3), while the Club was defeated by the *Albion* (1-2); on Thursday the *Vengeance* beat the 93rd Burmas (1-0); yesterday the Club lost to the 93rd Burmas (0-1). The Club team has been much weakened lately, Barnes going to India, and Chater, Hooper, and Davies being on the sick-list.

Ten entries have been received for the Hockey Cup. The following is the draw:—

114th Mahrattas	
H.M.S. <i>Vengeance</i>	
93rd Burmas (II) bye	
110th Mahrattas	
93rd Burmas (I)	
H.K. Hockey Club	
H.M.S. <i>Albion</i>	
H.M.S. <i>Ocean</i>	
H.M.S. <i>Leviathan</i>	
H.M.S. <i>Centurion</i>	

The first round is to be finished on or before the 10th February, the second on or before the 22nd February.

I mentioned a short time ago that a Cup presented by Mr. T. C. Gray had been put up for competition among the members of the Hongkong Club bowling team. Six of the eight competed, and the result was as follows:—

1. F. Maitland	1503
2. E. H. Hinds	1467
3. J. Hooper	1438
4. J. W. C. Bonnar	1432
5. C. P. Chater	1386
6. J. F. Lee	1272

A second night is practising hard for a match v. German 2nd VIII., the match coming off soon. Probably after that the German Club will again challenge the Club for the Shield.

(Daily Press, 6th February.)

The H.K.C.C. to-day meet the Navy on the Cricket Ground, the commencement of the game being fixed for 11.30 a.m. The Club has the assistance of three military players, but does not look very strong in bowling. It is to be noted that only four of the recent Inter-Port teams are playing. As the Navy has a good number of vessels to draw upon I should not be very surprised to see the Club "caught napping," but still its batting talent is great and perhaps may pull it through. The last Club v. Navy match was played on New Year's day and the next day, when the Club won by an innings and 50 runs. The Club had a better team on that occasion, and the Navy XI. was, to say the least, unrepresentative; in fact, that XI. was challenged by another naval team, but the game unfortunately never came off. To-day's naval team should be considerably better than that with which R. Hancock and Wm. Dixon wrought such havoc six weeks ago; but the list is not public yet.

Two League matches are fixed for to-day—Civil Service C.C. v. Hongkong C.C. Reserves and Craigengower C.C. v. Parsees. If the Civil Service C.C. win their match they should make fairly sure of second place at least, but the Club Reserves are improving, and a win to-day is not out of the question. The record of 3 victories to their credit might almost encourage them to keep a score-book, which they have not at present. The following is the table for the competition:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	P.
A.O.C. ...	11	10	1	0	30
Civil Service ...	9	7	1	1	22
Craigengower ...	10	5	3	2	17
R.E. ...	9	5	4	0	15
H.K.C.C. "A." ...	9	3	6	0	9
H.M.S. Tamar ...	7	2	5	0	6
R.A.M.C. ...	9	1	7	1	4
Parsees ...	8	1	7	0	3

The Association football match to-day between the H.K.F.C. and the Sherwood Foresters should be interesting as providing a line whereby to arrive at an estimation of the Foresters' capacities, hitherto not really tested this season. Their Shield tie v. the Rovers was farcical, and friendly games played by them are no index of their strength. It seems, however, that it will be unsafe to reckon on the military and naval teams entered for the Shield this season, as service movements may upset all calculations. The Sherwood Foresters, for instance, lose some of their men by the departure on the *Borneo* to-day of a draft for the North. Should they win their second tie, on the other hand, v. the *Cressey*, who yesterday made an awful exhibition of the Royal Engineers, they may be reinforced from home before the third round finishes. As for the naval teams, much may depend on how the Shield committee decide about ties unfinished in the specified time owing to the absence of ships from the harbour.

Two very interesting hockey games have been played this week, the *Vengeance* on Thursday defeating the 114th Mahratta in the first round by 2-0, and the *Albion* beating the Club in the second round yesterday by 1-0, both having byes in the first round. The *Vengeance* has now to meet the 93rd Burma's second team in the second round, the time for completion of which ends on the 22nd inst.

Training on the Race Course has been somewhat interfered with by the two wet days. The most notable incident of the week has been the utter banishment of *Nurses* from Derby favouritism after he stopped dead and threw his rider on Thursday morning. With the huge number of entries—beating all previous Hongkong records—the principal events seem more than usually open this year.

OMPAX.

Mr. C. Rivett-Carnac left Bangkok for Europe on the 22nd ult. by the *Deli*, having resigned the position of Financial Adviser which he has occupied for the last five years. In future Mr. Rivett-Carnac's headquarters will be in London, where he will act as Financial Agent to the Siamese Government.

CRICKET.

H.K.C.C. v. THE GARRISON.

The Club gained an easy victory in the match on the 30th ult. as, after declaring their innings closed at 277 for 6 wickets, they dismissed the Garrison for 131 only. The chief contributors to this success were Turner, who made another hundred and carried his bat, and Lambie, who, put out to bowl last of all, secured 5 wickets for less than 4 runs each. The Club only made moderate start, H. Hancock being out at 38 and Sercombe Smith at 49, but Horsey and Turner then proceeded to lay the foundation of a good innings, and the score was 117 before Horsey's innings (which included 7 fours) came to an end. Vivian, Brawn, and Horley did not do much, though Brawn hit a five, and 5 wickets were down for 179. When R. Hancock joined Turner, however, the Garrison bowlers were mastered and hit about most unmercifully. Two overs of Bradford's produced 16 apiece and one of Cheaney's 18. When they had added 98 runs Turner's and Hancock's partnership was cut short by the dismissal of the former being 115, and the latter 47, not out. Turner hit 23 fours. The Garrison, on going in against 277, made a wretched start and lost 3 men for 14. Hodgson helped Davies to put on 72, and Davies himself was out fifth at 106, to which he had contributed 70 by vigorous batting, seemingly unimpaired by his recent accident. No one else could do anything with Lambie, who was the fifth bowler tried, yet took half the wickets. Consequently the Club won by 146 runs, beside having 4 wickets in hand. Scores and analysis:—

H.K.C.C.	
H. Hancock, c Bradford, b Chichester ...	24
T. Sercombe Smith, l.b.w., b Chichester ...	14
F. L. Horsey, R.N., c Kirkpatrick, b Davies ...	32
W. C. D. Turner, not out ...	115
Lieut. Vivian, R.N., b Chichester ...	5
A. O. Brawn, b Chichester ...	14
Dr. Horsey, R.N., b Davies ...	0
R. Hancock, not out ...	47
Extras ...	26

Total (6 wickets) ... 277
Innings declared closed. P. T. Lambie, R. A. B. Ponsonby, and Capt. Harris, R.M.A., did not bat.

THE GARRISON.	
Major Chichester (capt.), c H., b R., Hancock ...	0
Capt. Davies, A.O.C., c Ponsonby, b Lambie ...	70
Lieut. Cooper, R.E., b Smith ...	1
Capt. Kirkpatrick, R.G.A., c R. Hancock ...	0
Lieut. Hodgson, S.F., st H. Hancock, b Smith ...	25
Lt. Doran, A.S.C., c Ponsonby, b Lambie ...	9
Lieut. Chesney, R.E., c Smith, b Lambie ...	10
Lieut. Dobbyn, E.G.A., c Turner, b Harris ...	8
Sergt. Skinner, A.O.C., b Lambie ...	0
Lieut. de Pledge, S.F., b Lambie ...	0
Corpl. Bradford, A.O.C., not out ...	1
Extras ...	1

Total ... 131

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.K.C.C.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Chichester ...	22	6	90	4
Bradford ...	15	3	74	0
Davies ...	8	0	53	2
Cheaney ...	3	0	34	0

THE GARRISON.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
R. Hancock ...	8	1	39	2
Sercombe Smith ...	11	0	40	2
Horsey ...	4	0	17	0
Harris ...	4	0	15	1
Lambie ...	3.5	0	19	5

H.K.C.C. v. THE NAVY.

The Club should have gained another very easy victory on this match on the 6th inst. thanks to some good level scoring on the part of their five bats and the bowling of Sercombe Smith but owing to the usual unpunctual start the Navy managed to keep the tenth wicket intact and the game was drawn. Turner (who was the Club captain on this occasion) won the toss and took H. Hancock to the wicket with him. Hancock scored the faster of the two and made 37 out of the first 66 when Harris bowled him. Turner left at 84, and Dixon and Heath then came together for a big stand. Boundaries were frequent and all bowlers alike came in for rough treatment. The Naval attack was poor, and the batsmen took many liberties. It was not until 109 runs had been added that the third wicket fell, Dixon having scored 63, including 12 fours. Heath followed him 12 runs

later, his 56 including 10 boundaries. Doran did nothing, but Sercombe Smith put on some runs and was 28, not out, when it was decided to close the innings at 234 for 5 wickets. When the Navy went in, a fair score looked possible at first, for Campbell kept on the defensive while Garde scored in his usual manner. However, the stand only lasted into the ninth over, when Dixon got rid of Garde, who had 27 to his credit out of 32. Campbell left next over, Horsey followed 7 runs later, and the "rot" continued until 6 wickets were down for 66. Then Rayment found Garne to stay with him, and 25 runs were put on before the former left. Gurner was out at 98, but Blair and Horley brought the 100 up and put on 21 runs in all, before Blair was dismissed. Harris survived the completion of Sercombe Smith's over, and the game was drawn. Scores and analysis:—

H.K.C.C.	
W. C. D. Turner, c and b Horsey ...	43
H. Hancock, b Harris ...	37
J. T. Dixon, c and b Horsey ...	63
Lieut. Heath, b Harris ...	56
T. Sercombe Smith, not out ...	28
Lieut. Doran, b Harris ...	5
A. G. Ward, not out ...	1
Extras ...	1

* Total (5 wickets) ... 234

* Innings declared closed. Capt. Davies, R. Ponsonby, A. Mackenzie, and Walter Dixon did not bat.

THE NAVY.	
Lieut. R. Garde, R.N. (capt.), b J. T. Dixon ...	27
— Campbell, R.N., c and b Smith ...	5
F. L. Horsey, R.N., run out ...	0
— Rayment, R.N., c sub. b Smith ...	29
Lieut. Com. Farquhar, R.N., b Mackenzie ...	1
Lieut. Gibson, R.N., b Mackenzie ...	9
Com. Shelford, R.N., l.b.w., b Hancock ...	0
Lieut. Gurner, R.N., c Heath, b Smith ...	15
Surgeon Horsey, R.N., not out ...	12
Lieut. Blair, R.N., b Smith ...	15
Capt. Harris, R.M.A., not out ...	0
Extras ...	6

Total (9 wickets) ... 119

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

H.K.C.C.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Gurner ...	6	1	38	—
Gibson ...	2	—	13	—
Horsey ...	14	3	51	2
Harris ...	13	1	62	3
Farquhar ...	4	—	20	—
Campbell ...	4	—	16	—
Rayment ...	3	—	33	—

THE NAVY.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
J. T. Dixon ...	12	6	30	1
Smith ...	15	3	43	4
Mackenzie ...	4	—	31	2
Hancock ...	1	—	9	1

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

LADIES' RACE.

This race, as announced in these columns, came off on the 30th ult. in beautiful bright weather. The morning had been still and calm, but just before the race a nice cool breeze sprang up from the S.E. which, freshening up in Kowloon Bay, sent the little boats foaming merrily along. The following is the list of the boats which crossed the line at Police Pier, with the names of the fair steerers:—

<i>Bonito</i> ...	Mrs. Hastings
<i>Dione</i> ...	Miss Stella May
<i>Doreen</i> ...	Mrs. Pratt
<i>Elspeth</i> ...	Mrs. Tomes
<i>Erica</i> ...	Mrs. Denison
<i>Gloria</i> ...	Mrs. Ormiston
<i>Iris</i> ...	Mrs. Saunders
<i>Kathleen</i> ...	Mrs. Pemberton
<i>Min</i> ...	Mrs. Hardy

Punctually at 2.30 p.m. the starting-gun fired, and the yachts crossed the line close-hauled to work down to the Channel Rocks against wind and tide. *Min* got the best of the start, and commenced to work down the slack water along the Kowloon shore. Some junks moved out at right angles to the tide, however, got in her way, and took her wind. *Elspeth*, very cleverly handled, managed to weather the junks and then took the lead. *Dione* and *Bonito*, who tried this corner next, were put about by a steamer and junk backing out, which forced them back into the tide. The other boats mostly took a long leg on the port tack to avoid these dangers, and did very well at first.

Elspeth was the first round Blackhead's corner, followed by *Min*, and as the wind gradually freshened and came more from the southward these two boats gradually increased their lead on the rest of the fleet, whilst those that went to the southward gradually sailed into a calm, *Kathleen*, *Doreen*, and *Gloria* being hopelessly left. After rounding Channel Rooks sheets were eased out, and spinnakers set for the run home, the winning line being crossed as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.		H.	M.	S.
<i>Elspeth</i>	4	2	30	<i>Bonito</i>	4	19	0
<i>Min</i>	4	11	37	<i>Iris</i>	4	20	44
<i>Dione</i>	4	14	30	<i>Kathleen</i>	4	27	17
<i>Erica</i>	4	18	32				

The *Elspeth* therefore won the first prize, a handsome silver bowl presented by Admiral Robinson. The *Min* won the second prize, a silver tea-caddie, presented by Staff-Surgeon Parker, and the *Dione* the third prize, a perforated silver bowl presented by Mrs. May. After the race the crews came on board the Governor's yacht at the Police Pier, where the prizes were duly presented to the winners. The cups having been filled with champagne (and the caddie with tea), the health of Mrs. Tomes, who steered the *Elspeth* to her first victory (which we hope may be followed by many others), was duly drunk, and after Mrs. Hardy and Miss Stella May had also been congratulated on their success, three cheers were given for Rear-Admiral and Mrs. Robinson, who seemed much overcome with emotion. None of the startling incidents of the last ladies' race occurred, and the party all reached home about 5 o'clock after a very enjoyable day.

HONGKONG.

A parcels post convention having just been signed, Hongkong will at last be able to send parcels to Manila direct instead of via Europe and San Francisco.

Mrs. Mary Alice Symington, wife of Mr. James R. Symington, C.E., of Quarry Bay Shipyard works, died at the Victoria Hospital, the Peak, on Friday and was buried on the 6th inst.

The marriage between the Hon. Gershom Stewart and Miss Gresson is to take place at Shanghai on the 9th inst. Mr. Stewart left on the 4th for the northern port by the *Lyceum*, owing to the late arrival of the German mail.

The wife of Capt. Whitton, of the U.S. transport *Zafiro*, which has been missing since she left Manila on the 29th ult., bound for Corea with U.S. marines on board, received a telegram in Hongkong on the 29th ult. announcing that the vessel has reached Chemulpo safely that day.

Tuesday, the 16th inst., being a Bank Holiday, and Wednesday, the 17th inst., are declared public holidays; Monday, the 15th, will also be observed as a holiday in all Government departments except the Post Office, Harbour Office, Stamp Office, and Police Magistrate's Department.

We understand that Capt. Dicken, the new Commodore, is expected by the next English mail. Mr. Dicken accompanies her husband, Captain Barnes-Lawrence, who succeeds Commander Rumsey as harbour master, is expected by the P. & O. steamer *Java*, due about three weeks hence. Captain Barnes-Lawrence is accompanied by his wife and daughter.

On the 1st inst. the duties of German Consul were formally taken over by Dr. F. Krüger, who relieves Dr. O. Gumprecht. Dr. Krüger arrived here on the 29th ult. by the s.s. *Bengal* from Shanghai, having come from Europe by way of the Siberian Railway. He was formerly in Manila and has for some time been at home on leave. Since his arrival Dr. Krüger has made many official calls, including one on Monday on H.E. the Officer Administering the Government. Dr. Gumprecht has been transferred to the Consulate at Cairo. He has been in Hongkong since July, 1901, during which time he has been very popular with the German community and has gained the high respect of all those who had to meet him either on business or socially. He will leave for Cairo probably by the next French mail.

The names of Messrs. A. E. Griffin and D. Macdonald have been added to the list of authorised architects in the Colony.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Hongkong has acceded to the International Sanitary Convention signed at Venice on the 19th March, 1897.

Only one case of communicable disease was reported in the Colony in the week of January—one of enteric fever, imported, the sufferer being an European.

At the Theatre Royal on the 2nd inst. the H.M.S. *Vengeance* troupe gave an entertainment in behalf of the local charities. There was a good attendance and the performance was heartily enjoyed by all present.

Private Perajee Sanaone, of the 110th Mah-rattas, was found dead in his bed on the morning of the 27th ult. with a bullet-wound in his head. An enquiry was held on the 2nd inst. at the Magistracy under the presidency of Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, when a verdict was returned that deceased died from the effects of a bullet-wound, self-inflicted with his service rifle.

Among the Government officials who are going on leave about March are Sir William M. Goodman, Mr. Justice Wise, Hon. W. Chatham, Mr. H. P. Tooker, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock. Mr. Li Hong Mi, the Supreme Court interpreter, is also going to England, taking with him his son, who is to be educated there. Sir Henry Berkeley will take up the duties of Chief Justice and Mr. T. Sercombe Smith those of Puisne Judge.

At some late hour on the 29th ult. a burglar made an attempt to rob the Post Office. Having made his entrance somehow, he penetrated into the Money Order Office and ransacked the drawers. All he managed to secure, however, was a 20-cent piece in a tin belonging to an office coolie. He tried, without success, to get into the Postmaster-General's room. The marks of the burglar's feet were distinctly to be seen on the counter of the outer office, but he left no other clue to his identity.

On the 3rd inst. another most successful dance took place in the Masonic Hall, under the auspices of the Masonic Quadrille Club, of which Mr. H. Wolfe is president, and the function, despite the fact that there was a Ball at Government House on the same evening, was largely attended, the condition of the floor which was perfect, the music, and the arrangement of the programme, doing great credit to the committee and all concerned, and it was with great regret that the last stragglers left, knowing it was the last public function of the season to take place in the hospitable Masonic Hall.

The following returns of the average amount of bank-notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong during January are certified by the managers of the respective banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China...	\$ 3,238,108	2,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.	13,333,796	8,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	433,653	150,000
Total	\$17,010,557	10,150,000

Another fire has to be added to the list of conflagrations just now rather frequent in Hongkong, and Wing Lok Street is again the scene of the outbreak, two houses, Nos. 54 and 56, being completely gutted. The house in which the fire broke out was occupied by Quan Hing, a dealer in fire-crackers and flour, who had a large quantity of those goods on his premises, the damage in consequence of the nature of the stores being therefore very heavy. The alarm was given about 11.50 a.m. on the 30th ult. and the Fire Brigade under Chief Inspector Baker was soon on the spot and had two hoses playing on the burning buildings, but the fire had made good way before it was discovered, and the buildings and their contents could not be saved, the efforts of the firemen being therefore directed toward preventing it spreading further. The cause of the outbreak is not at present known. The damage is estimated at \$25,000, but the property is insured with the Imperial Fire Insurance Co. of which Messrs. D. & Co. are the local agents.

The appointment of Dr. G. Krüger as Consul for Germany in Hongkong is notified in the *Gazette*.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 31st January, were 229 non-Chinese and 107 Chinese to the former, and 54 non-Chinese and 3,043 Chinese to the latter institution.

Certain changes in the names of roads in the Colony are notified in the *Gazette*. They are as follows:—Upper Richmond Road will in future be known as Robinson Road; that part of Robinson Road west of its junction with Upper Richmond Road will be known as Park Road; Lower Richmond Road as Lyttelton Road; the path or road which runs westward from Robinson Road round "Edenhall" and "Inglewood" residences and then southward across Lower Richmond Road into Upper Richmond Road, as Babington Path; the path or road which runs southward, from the same point in Robinson Road, as above described, past "Oaklands" Residence to Lower Richmond Road, as Oaklands Path; and, finally, Richmond Terrace will in future be called Park View.

The members of King Edward VII Lodge R.A.O.B. gave a very successful dance at their Club-rooms on the 30th ult. The rooms were prettily decorated and over one hundred members and friends attended to enjoy themselves, which they thoroughly did. The Committee are to be congratulated on the result of their efforts to make everyone at home and the members are also fortunate in having such a hard-working Committee. Dancing was kept up till twelve o'clock mid-night, and everyone was sorry to leave at the conclusion, all wishing that it could have been kept up later. The Committee inform us that they intend giving more of these enjoyable dances and hope they will be as successful in the future as they were on Saturday night.

Another new steamer will soon be put on the Hongkong-Canton run to deal with the increased passenger and cargo traffic on the Pearl River. The new vessel is called the *Kwang Tung*, and was launched on Tuesday night from Messrs. W. S. Bailey and Co.'s yard at Kowloon Bay. She is a sister ship to the *Kwang Chow*, which was also built by Messrs. Bailey. No invitations were issued to the public, but a party of friends of the owners and the shipbuilders were there to witness the ceremony. The *Kwang Tung* was launched complete with machinery and boilers in place, and will run her official trials within the present week. Her owners are the Yuen On Steamship Co. of which Mr. Chan Siu-ki is the managing-director.

Hongkong was rudely alarmed by the clanging of the alarm bell shortly before 9 p.m. on the 5th inst. Fire had broke out at the premises of the Lee Wo Leung Hong, No. 72 Bonham Strand, where a medicine business is carried on. The brigade, under Deputy-Superintendent of Police E. K. Hallifax, hurried to the scene, getting escapes and hoses with them. At the outset the conflagration was confined to the top floor; the flames ascending above the house and showing a bright reflection on the tops of houses around, while a cloud of sparks travelled westward before a moderate breeze. Commencing with one jet of water, the brigade gradually got others coupled to the various connections, directing the play through the top windows of the house. Fire eventually spread to the next house, No. 74, occupied as a dwelling house for the same house, No. 72 being a ginseng godown. Judging by the numerous fierce hisses characterising the fire, there must also have been a number of Chinese New Year crackers in the house, "Joss pidgin" as a Chinaman called it. After some time an escape was rigged up to the top verandah of No. 74, and three brigade men went up with hoses to direct the water. About the same time an escape was put up in Jervois Street, and a hose brought to play on the back of the house, over a Jervois Street house-top. With the roof of No. 72 gone, and both 72 and 74 pretty well gutted out, the fire was well under control at 10 o'clock. From the insurance agents watching the fire we gathered that the houses, etc., were insured with four firms:—Messrs. Siemssen & Co., the Ping On, the Chun On, and the Tung On. Our informants estimated the total insurances as amounting to from 70 to 80,000 dollars.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son's in their Circular of 28th of January state:—The home markets are quiet. Raw Silk.—A moderate business has been transacted in Tsatlees, but the higher prices now asked combined with higher Exchange stops business. Yellow Silks.—A fair business has been done in Yellow Silks at usual quotations. Hand Filatures—continue to be in some demand chiefly for America. Holders are asking for higher prices which the Home Markets are at present unwilling to concede. Steam Filatures—are practically neglected. Tussah Filatures.—A considerable business has been done this week, some 250 bales having been settled. Tael Prices have declined. Waste Silk.—Nothing doing.

SUGAR.

Hongkong 5th February.—The downward tendency continues, market being dull.

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.55 to \$8.60	pols.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.55 to 7.60	"
Do. " 1, Brown.....	6.00 to 6.05	"
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.85 to 5.90	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.45 to 8.50	"
Do. " 2, White.....	7.50 to 7.55	"
Do. " 1, Brown.....	5.85 to 5.90	"
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.75 to 5.80	"
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.50 to 12.85	"
Shekloong ".....	10.70 to 10.75	"

RICE.

HONGKONG 5th February.—No demands having come forward the prices are further declining.

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.90 to \$3.00	
" Round, good quality.....	4.25 to 4.30	
" Long.....	4.40 to 4.45	
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2.....	3.45 to 3.50	
" Garden, " No. 1.....	3.35 to 3.40	
" White, ".....	4.55 to 4.60	
" Fine Cargo.....	4.85 to 4.90	

OPIUM.

Quotations are:—Allowance	7th February.—	net. to 1 catty.
Malwa New.....	\$930 to \$950	per picul.
Malwa Old.....	\$970 to \$990	do.
Malwa Older.....	\$1,010 to \$1,030	do.
Malwa V. Old.....	\$1,050 to \$1,070	do.
Persian fine quality.....	\$910 to —	do.
Persian extra fine.....	\$920 to —	do.
Patna New.....	\$1,300 to —	per chest.
Patna Old.....	— to —	do.
Benares New.....	\$1,297½ to —	do.
Benares Old.....	— to —	do.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 15th Jan.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

COTTON YARN.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$ 90.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24, ...	120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32, ...	136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42, ...	155.00 to 170.00

Reported sales 1,500 bales.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.—

	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.30 to 2.40
7 lbs.	2.50 to 2.80
8.4 lbs.	3.50 to 4.25
9 to 10 lbs.	4.30 to 5.50
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.90 to 3.25
58 to 60 "	3.50 to 4.00
64 to 66 "	4.25 to 5.75
Fine.....	6.00 to 8.50
Book-folds.....	5.00 to 8.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.85 to 1.75
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.....	2.30 to 2.80
7lbs. (32 ") ..	2.50 to 3.00
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.....	2.50 to 3.00
7lbs. (32 ") ..	3.10 to 3.30
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.).....	3.30 to 4.05
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ " to 14 lbs. }	4.75 to 7.30

FANCY COTTONS.—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs. }	1.75 to 4.00
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Brocades—Dyed..... — to — |

DAMASKS.—

	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted.....	0.9½ to —
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.26 to 0.47½
Velveteens—18 in.	0.25 to 0.26
	per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk.....	0.35 to 3.50

WOOLLENS.—

	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.77½ to 2.25
German.....	— to —
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.....	1.25 to 3.50
	per piece
Long Ells—Scurlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.95 to 9.20
Assorted.....	7.10 to 9.45
Camlets—Assorted.....	12.50 to 33.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } Assorted.....	12.50 to 22.50
Orleans—Plain, 31 in.	10.00 to —
	per pair
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	0.61 to 0.80
Fine quality.....	1.25 to 1.85

METALS.—

	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod.....	4.25 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.).....	1.25 to —
Swedish Bar.....	4.30 to —
Small Round Rod.....	4.50 to —
Hoop & to 1½ in.	6.50 to —
Wire, 16/25 oz.	9.60 to —
Wire Rope, Old.....	3.00 to —

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co. in their Piece Goods Trade Report of 28th January, state:—There is next to nothing to report this week, business being practically at a standstill, brought about chiefly by the higher prices holders feel compelled to ask on account of the extraordinary position of the home markets. Forward transactions are quite out of the question, as apart from the enhanced prices demanded and the uncertainty regarding exchange, the effect on the trade if war should eventuate has to be taken into account. Everything now points to the outbreak of hostilities almost at any moment, and, as it seems to be inevitable, the sooner it begins the better. It is pretty certain that foreign interests in the greater part of China will be well safe-guarded, so there should not be a very decided disruption of the trade, or more than the abnormal conditions now pertaining would warrant. The money market could scarcely be in a worse plight than at present, and exchange is quite disorganised—after ruling for months considerably below the parity of Silver it is now much above, and the possibility of its reverting to the former position at any moment keeps all the concerned guessing! The inability to pick up bargains privately appears to have caused more attention to be paid to the auctions, where prices for cottons have rallied in spite of the fact that payment is still called for before the native settling day. With cotton in Liverpool at 8.20d to 8.25d for Mid American and 9½d for Egyptian the Manchester market is still soaring. Here and there it is possible to hear of a small order going through for a special line of fancy goods, but to all intents and purposes present prices are practically prohibitive. The export of plain cottons this month up to the 22nd was 22,000,000 yards to Hongkong and China. From the States we learn that some of the earlier purchases for this market have been resold in New York on account of the war scare. The home demand continues good and consumers are taking considerable quantities of heavy cloths usually made for export. According to telegraphic advices cotton for July is now quoted 14½ cents gold! There is enquiry still for yarns for the River markets, a large shipment having recently been destroyed by fire in the neighbourhood of Wuhu. Prices keep steady for immediate delivery, but holders decline to sell for after China New Year clearance. Local cotton is firmer.

HANKOW, 20th January. — The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Bowhides, best selected (Winter cargo) Tls.	32.00
Do. seconds.....	28.00
Buffalo hides, best selected.....	22.00
Goatskins, untanned (chiefly white colour).....	58.50
Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each).....	10.20
White hina Grass (Wuchang and/or Poochi).....	13.00
White China Grass (Sinshan and/or Chayu).....	11.50
Green Bhina Grass (Szechuen).....	11.50
Jute.....	5.00
White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow).....	11.50
White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchow and/or Macheng).....	11.20
White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu).....	9.50
Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiya).....	15.00
Animal Tallow.....	1.80
Gallnuts (usual shape).....	19.00
Do. (Plum) do.	20.50
Tobacco, Tin:chow.....	—
Black Bristles.....	118.00

Feathers (Grey and/or White Duck).....	19.50
Turmeric.....	3.80
Sesamum Seed.....	4.30
Sesamum Seed Oil.....	8.00
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil.....	7.90
Wood Oil.....	8.00
Tea Oil.....	8.90

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 5th February, 1904.—A comparatively fair business has been transacted since the date of our last report, chiefly in shipping stocks, which, with the exception of Hongkong, Canton, and Macao, have all appreciated in value in consequence of the withdrawal of many Japanese steamers from various lines to meet the requirements of transport by the Government, and, in view of the increasingly unsettled state of Russo-Japanese relations, for other reasons political and economical. The general tone of the market, with the above exception, has been weaker, and only a decreasingly small investing business has to be reported.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai remain unchanged and without business at the nominal rate of \$64½; London rate also unchanged at £62. Nationals are quoted at \$33 buyers ex the dividend of 3/6 per share paid in the 1st inst.

MARINE INSURANCES.—With the exception of North Chinas, which are now quoted at Tls. 67 buyers, we have no changes or business to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong are enquired for at \$305 without bringing shares into the market. China Fires remain unchanged with small sales at \$92.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao were placed in the early part of the week at \$13 and later at \$30½, market closing with sellers at the former rate. Indos have steadily improved during the week with sales at and between \$74 and \$79, closing with probable buyers at \$79 and sellers at \$79½. On time a fair number of shares have changed hands at from \$79 to \$83 for July. China Manilas have improved to \$20½ after sales at \$19 and \$20. Douglas's, with an unsatisfied demand at \$31, gradually improved to \$34, at which latter rate shares can now be placed. Star Ferries unchanged and without business. Shell Transports have slightly improved, and sales have been effected at 20s. 6d. market closing with probable buyers at 21s.

REFINERIES.—Chinas Sugars, after small sales at \$104, are in a small demand at \$105. Luzons unchanged and without business.

MINING.—We have no business or changes to report under this heading.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong & Whampoa Docks have ruled very quiet with sellers at \$209, and at time of closing at \$208. Kowloon Wharfs have found buyers at \$95 and close in demand at that rate. New Amoy Docks unchanged and without business. Farnhams have small local sellers at Tls. 127.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue dull and neglected at \$150 sellers. West Points have receded to \$55 without sales. Hongkong Hotels have been placed at \$146, and more shares are probably procurable at that rate. Humphreys have found further buyers at \$11½. Shanghai Lands have advanced in the north to Tls. 112.

COTTON MILLS.—No changes or business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands, after further small sales at \$25½, remain on offer at that rate. China Borneos are enquired for at \$8½ and Watkins at \$7½. Fenwicks have improved to \$51 with buyers. Watsons and Howells have found small buyers at quotations, the latter closing with further buyers at \$9.75.

MEMOS.—Hongkong Rope Company Limited ordinary yearly meeting on 6th inst. Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steam Boat Co., Ltd., half-yearly ordinary meeting on 6th inst. Humphreys' Estate and Finance Co., Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on 10th February. Transfer books closed from 3rd to 13th inst. Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd., ordinary annual meeting on 10th February. Transfer books closed to 10th inst. Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation ordinary half-yearly meeting on 20th inst. Transfer books closed from 6th to 20th inst. Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, ordinary half-yearly meeting on 22nd February. Transfer books closed from 8th to 22nd inst.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	{ \$645 L'don, £62.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$33, ex div., buy.
B. Shares	28	\$33, ex div., buy.
Found. Shares...	21	\$10
Insurance—		
Union	\$100	\$490, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$56, sellers
North China	225	Tls. 67, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$135
Canton	\$50	\$175, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$305, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$92, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
H., Canton and M...	\$15	\$31, sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	210	\$79, sellers
China and Manila...	\$50	\$20, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$34, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$30, sellers
.....	\$5	\$19, sellers
Shell Transport and		
Trading Co.	21	21/6
Do. pref. shares...	210	210, nominal
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$10
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$10, sellers
Mining—		
Punjom	\$11	\$1, sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	25 cents
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$600, sellers
Raub	18/10	\$6, sellers
Docks, Etc.—		
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$208, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$95, sales & buyers
New Amoy Dock ...	\$63	\$38, sellers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 127, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$150, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$5, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$55, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$145, sales
Humphreys Estate ...	\$10	\$11, sales & sellers
.....	\$2	\$2, sales
S'hai Land Ins. Co., Ld.	Tls. 52	Tls. 112
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 33, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 25
Laon Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 35
Saychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 170
Hongkong	\$10	\$15, sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$25, sellers
China-Borneo Co., Ld.	12	\$8, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S...	\$10	\$14, sales
Hongkong Electric ...	\$10	\$12, sellers
.....	\$5	\$7, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas...	210	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$145, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$51, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$240, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways...	\$100	\$300
Hk. Steam Water-		
Boat Co., Ld.	\$10	\$15, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$40
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	12/6	\$5, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9
Do.	\$10	\$210, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co...	\$5	nominal
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9, sales & sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$7, buyers
China Light & Power		
Co., Ld.	\$10	\$5
Powell, Ld.	\$10	\$9, sales & buyers
Shanghai and Hong-		
kong Dyeing and	\$50	\$50
Cleaning Co., Ld.		
Canton, Hongkong Ice	\$10	\$10, nominal
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited...	\$500	\$200
Phippine Tobacco ...	\$50	\$10, buyers
Trust Co., Ld. ...		

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARES.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset in their report of the 29th ult. state:—The business for the week under review has been limited, and though a number of transactions are reported, the number of shares changed hands has been small. Money continues exceedingly tight although the rate for interest on mortgages for 2 to 3 years ahead remains steady at 8 per cent. The T. T. rate on London to-day is quoted 2/6 7/8. Banks—H. & S. Banks. No business reported in this stock. In the south the quotation is \$637 1/2 nominal, and the London quotation is £62.10/- Marine & Fire Insurance.—The only business reported is in China Fires

at \$92 to Hongkong at 69 3/4 and again at \$91. Shipping.—The only business reported is in Indo-Chinas. The market opened on the 23rd with cash sales at Tls. 51 and 53 1/2 for March and 53 April. A transaction on the 25th is reported at Tls. 52 1/2 for March. On the 27th to-day's settlement shares were placed at Tls. 51 1/2 and to-day at 52, and 54 for April. Docks and Wharves.—Farnhams continue to improve. The market opened at the beginning of the week at Tls. 123 Cash and Settlement, rose to 124 and 125, closing steadily at the latter rate. March shares were placed at 125 and 127 1/2 and April shares at 128. S. & H. Wharves. Business is reported at Tls. 196 1/2 for cash and 200 with sales for March at 202 1/2. Sugars.—No business reported excepting a transaction in Peraks at Tls. 50. Mining.—The only business reported is Weihaiwei Gold Mining shares at \$18 and Kaipings at Tls. 5.80. Lands.—Shanghai Lands. Business at Tls. 109 and 110, the market is steady. Industrial.—The only transaction in cotton shares is in Internationals at Tls. 25. Shanghai Gas have been placed at Tls. 107 1/2 and are wanted at a trifle over this rate. Green Island Cements have been placed locally at \$25 1/2 ex 73. Langkats. The market opened on the 22nd with cash sales at Tls. 295, 297 1/2 and 295 January, 307 1/2 March and 320 June. 23rd Cash and January settlement shares were placed at Tls. 295 and 307 1/2 March, and 322 1/2 June, 25th at 295 and 297 1/2 January, 315 and 312 1/2 April, 26/27th cash at 297 1/2, 28th at 297 1/2 and 295, and 310 for March, 315, 317 1/2 April, 330 May. The market closes weaker with sellers at 292 1/2. Stores & Hotels.—Hall & Holtz have been placed at \$32 and 33, Moutries at \$52 1/2. Hotel des Colonies at Tls. 14. Miscellaneous.—The only business transacted is in Telephones at Tls. 66. Loans.—No business reported. Sellers at quotations, or slightly under.

EXCHANGE.

SATURDAY, 8th February.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	230 1/2
ON GERMANY.—	
Credits 4 months' sight	234
On demand	187 1/2
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	44 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	45 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	135 1/2
Bank, on demand	135 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	135 1/2
Bank, on demand	135 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	70 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	71 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	90 1/2
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	nominal
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	nominal
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	110 1/2
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1 1/2 p.c.p.m.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 p.c.p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	63
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	
BAR SILVER, per oz.	

FREIGHTS.

Per Conference Steamers. To London and Northern Continental ports:—Tea 52/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet. General Cargo 52/6 per ton of 40 cubic feet. Seeds 47/6 per ton of 20 cwt. To Marseilles and Havre:—General 48/- net, per ton of 40 cubic feet. Seeds 47/6 net, per ton of 20 cwt. To New York (Overland):—Tea 1 1/2 G\$ cents per lb. gross. To New York, via Suez:—30/- per ton of 40 cubic feet. To Shanghai:—Tea Tails 1.80 per ton of 13 half-chests. To Shanghai:—General, Tails 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

-ARRIVALS.

January—

29, Alb-nga, German str., from Manila.
29, Anhui, British str., from Manila.
29, Aspern, Austrian str., from Shanghai.
29, Bengal, British str., from Shanghai.
29, C. r. Diedefichsen, Ger. str., from Pakhoi.
29, Chiynen, Chinese str., from Canton.
29, Eclipse, British cruiser, from Mirs Bay.
29, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
29, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
29, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
29, Kennebec, British str., from New York.
29, Lyeemoon, German str., from Ningpo.
29, Moyune, British str., from Liverpool.
29, Onsang, British str., from Nagasaki.
29, P. C. Klao, German str., from Bangkok.
29, S. Rickmers, Brit. str., from Pulo Sambu.
29, Siam, British str., from Shanghai.
29, Thea, German str., from Saigon.
29, Triumph, German str., from Haiphong.
29, Tungshing, British str., from Wuhu.
30, Chihuahua, British str., from Newport.
30, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
30, Chusiu, British str., from Bombay.
30, Diomed, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
30, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from K'notzu.
30, Glenfalloch, British str., from Straits.
30, Kwangse, British str., from Shanghai.
30, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
30, P. C. C. Klao, German str., from Bangkok.
30, Shawmut, American str., from Tacoma.
30, Taicheong, German str., from Deli.
30, Wurzberg, German str., from Shanghai.
30, Yiksang, British str., from Canton.
31, Cressy, British cruiser, from Weihaiwei.
31, Deuteros, German str., from Canton.
31, Edvard Bay, Russian str., from Odessa.
31, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
31, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
31, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
31, Manchuria, Russian str., from Singapore.
31, Pioneer, German str., from Christmas Isld.
31, Shantung, German str., from Bangkok.

February—

1, Emma Luyken, German str., from Moji.
1, Glenloch, British str., from Yokohama.
1, Kowloon, German str., from Canton.
1, Sachsen, German str., from Shanghai.
1, Sangkiang, British str., from Manila.
1, Sintan, German str., from Bangkok.
1, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
2, Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
2, Bourbon, French str., from Saigon.
2, Hangsang, British str., from Canton.
2, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
2, Kaifong, British str., from Manila.
2, Lennox, British str., from Rangoon.
2, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
2, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
2, Sikh, British str., from Yokohama.
3, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.
3, Babelsberg, German str., from Singapore.
3, Benledi, British str., from Moji.
3, Choy-ang, British str., from Shanghai.
3, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
3, Germanus, German str., from K'notzu.
3, Johanne, German str., from Hoihow.
3, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
3, Phu Yen, French str., from Saigon.
3, Siberia, American str., from S. Francisco.
3, Sullba-g, German str., from Canton.
3, Tayabas, American str., from Amoy.
3, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
3, Wuchang, British str., from Iloilo.
4, Aki Maru, Japanese str., from Shanghai.
4, Glaucus, British str., from Liverpool.
4, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
4, Pekin, British str., from Kobe.
4, Scotsman, British str., from Rangoon.
4, Volga, British str., from Barry Dock.
5, Avoca, British str., from Rangoon.
5, Benvorlich, British str., from Rangoon.
5, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
5, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
5, Hansa, German str., from Moji.
5, Hounslow, British str., from Moji.
5, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
5, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
5, Merionethshire, British str., from London.
5, Seydlitz, German str., from Bremen.
6, Bengloe, British str., from London.
6, Borneo, British str., from London.

6, Changsha, British str., from Sydney.
 6, Fausang, British str., from Java.
 6, Hongwan I, British str., from Singapore.
 6, Kansu, British str., from Manila.
 6, Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
 6, Suisang, British str., from Calcutta.
 6, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 7, Capri, Italian str., from Bombay.
 7, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 7, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Shanghai.
 7, Hailoong, British str., from Swatow.
 7, Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 7, Michael Jebson, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 7, Murex, British str., from Palembang.
 7, Nestor, British str., from Shanghai.
 7, Radnorshire, British str., from Japan.

January—DEPARTURES.

28, Quarta, German str., for Java.
 29, Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 29, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
 29, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 29, Hunan, British str., for Cebu.
 29, Kansu, British str., for Manila.
 29, Kasan, Russian str., for Port Arthur.
 29, Koun Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 29, Kwongsang, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.
 29, Prometheus, Norw. str., for Saigon.
 29, Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 29, Tamba Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 29, Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
 30, Albenga, German str., for Shanghai.
 30, Alouette, French gunboat, for Canton.
 30, Amara, British str., for Saigon.
 30, Bengal, British str., for Europe.
 30, Chiyeun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 30, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 30, Hinsang, British str., for Kobe.
 30, Indravelli, British str., for Portland.
 30, M. Struve, German str., for Haiphong.
 30, Malaya, Russian str., for Singapore.
 30, Mongkut, German str., for Bangkok.
 30, Moyune, British str., for Shanghai.
 30, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Rangoon.
 30, Pingsuey, British str., for Nagasaki.
 30, Solace, U.S. transport, for Manila.
 30, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.
 31, An Pho, British str., Swatow.
 31, Bjorn, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 31, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 31, Chusan, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Eclipse, British cruiser, for Singapore.
 31, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 31, Liscum, U.S. transport, for Manila.
 31, Lothian, British str., for Moji.
 31, Salamanca, Dutch str., for Moji.
 31, Triumph, German str., for Haiphong.
 31, Tungshing, British str., for Canton.

February—

1, Alacrity, British des.-ves., for Canton.
 1, Anhui, British str., for Australia.
 1, Deuteros, German str., for Saigon.
 1, Diomed, British str., for London.
 1, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 1, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
 1, Kwangse, British str., for Canton.
 1, Loksang, British str., for Chinkiang.
 1, Pionier, German str., for Yokohama.
 1, Shawmut, Amr. str., for Manila.
 1, Wakamat-u Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 2, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 2, Hailoon, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
 2, Holstein, German str., for Shanghai.
 2, Ichang, British str., for Iloilo.
 2, Kowloon, German str., for Chinkiang.
 2, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 2, Manchuria, Russian str., for Dalny.
 2, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., for Swatow.
 2, Siam, British str., for Singapore.
 2, Whampoa, British str., for Swatow.
 2, Yiksang, British str., for Moji.
 3, China, German str., for Saigon.
 3, Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
 3, Empire, British str., for Kobe.
 3, Glenlochy, British str., for London.
 3, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 3, Kumsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 3, Lennox, British str., for Kobe.
 3, Pak Lat, German str., for Bangkok.
 3, Pitsanulok, German str., for Bangkok.
 3, Sachsen, German str., for Europe.
 3, Sullberg, German str., for Kobe.
 3, Taicheong, German str., for Deli.
 3, Thea, German str., for Kebro.

4, Anping Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 4, Babelsberg, German str., for Amoy.
 4, Chihli, British str., for Manila.
 4, Chowtai, German str., for Bangkok.
 4, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 4, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 4, Monterey, U.S. monitor, for Canton.
 4, Pekin, British str., for Rombay.
 4, Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
 4, Taiping, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
 4, Telemachus, British str., for Saigon.
 4, Triumph, German str., for Swatow.
 5, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Tamsui.
 5, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
 5, Glaucus, British str., for Shanghai.
 5, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 5, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Canton.
 5, P. C. C. Klao, German str., for Bangkok.
 5, Seydlitz, French str., for Shanghai.
 5, Thales, British str., for Coast Ports.
 6, Aspern, Austrian cruiser, for Canton.
 6, Benvorlich, British str., for Yokohama.
 6, Centurion, British battleship, for Mirs Bay.
 6, Devawongse, German str., for Bangkok.
 6, Emma Luyken, German str., for Saigon.
 6, Johanne, German str., for Haiphong.
 6, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 6, Maristow, British str., for Calcutta.
 6, Onsang, British str., for Singapore.
 6, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
 6, Sikh, British str., for New York.
 6, Scotsman, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 6, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 7, Bourbon, French str., for Saigon.
 7, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 7, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 7, Kenn-ber, British str., for Shanghai.
 7, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Anping.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Bengal*, from Shanghai for Hongkong, Mrs. F. Carter, Messrs. Trevor, H. F. Howe, D. M. Mickle, C. S. Paget, T. W. Mitchell, G. D. Musso, H. E. Keylock, R. C. Mackay, and Dr. Kruger.

Per *Chusan*, for Hongkong, from London, Mrs. H. T. Scott and Miss McKinnon; from Marseilles, Messrs. L. B. Jebb, H. Smith, W. Fergusson, A. Rodolph, C. K. Bailey, and F. F. Prentis; from Brindisi, Comdr. C. E. Munro; from Singapore, Lady Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead and infant, Rev. Mercadibide, Messrs. H. Alder, H. W. Marsh, P. Roza, and Halleim; for Shanghai, from London, Mr. H. L. Harvey; from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Redge, Messrs. G. W. Moir and M. A. Clark; from Singapore, Mr. H. W. Roth; for Yokohama, from London, Mr. Lewis Peck; from Marseilles, Mr. A. E. Graves.

Per *Sachsen*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Drs. L. W. Bishop and Luckbein and family, Messrs. M. Xavier and T. H. Abdulla; from Kobe, Messrs. L. W. Bickel and Th. Gibbison; from Nagasaki, Miss L. Seidensticker; from Shanghai, Mrs. Lockhardt, Mrs. Daniels, Mrs. Seeberg, Lieut. R. S. Papham, Surg. Walker, R.N., Vice-Consul Leirio, Rev. Woodberry, Messrs. Harold Rose, E. Quelch, Tutaka Tahara, r. Rowe, Mossle, George Riddle, Schlafke, James E. Maurice, and James Young; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Misses T. Yasui, R. Kono, and T. Nakajima and Mr. T. Tamazaka; from Nagasaki, Mrs. F. Kafada, Mrs. Rio Mine, Misses Okinu and Tom's Mine; from Shanghai, Mr. G. T. Davies and Miss Ito; for Penang, from Shanghai, Messrs. M. Jaquet and A. Krevasus; for Colombo, from Kobe, Mr. H. R. Rasp; for Naples, from Yokohama, Mrs. Watts, Messrs. R. Nagashima and O. Ishizaka; from Nagasaki, Mr. M. Umberto; for Genoa, from Yokohama, Mr. Reid; from Kobe, Messrs. P. Michelsen, Alfr. Fiaschi, G. Salsicconi, and W. Loehead; from Shanghai, Rev. Clayton and family, Prof. Dr. Conradi and family, Messrs. J. H. Lo and L. Siebold; for Hamburg, from Yokohama, Messrs. Chr. Druby and W. H. Dehls; from Kobe, Mr. S. Yida; from Nagasaki, Lieut. P. C. Hutton; for London, from Yokohama, Mrs. Brindley and family, Mrs. Whithall, Mrs. Blael's children (3), Rev. T. S. Budwick, Messrs. E. A. Gibson and R. Nakayama; from Kobe, Messrs. S. G. Bromley, Rbt. Graham, James Orkle, and H. H. Tantom; from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Eckford and Lieut. Wardsee.

Per *Siberia*, from San Francisco, &c., for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Allen, Mrs.

E. P. Boyd and two children, Mrs. F. W. Davis and infant, Mrs. L. D. Miner, Rev. and Mrs. S. B. Rossiter, Mrs. H. N. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Winship, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Tritch, Dr. and Mrs. Wm. Daniel, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. White, Mrs. P. M. Berry, Mrs. Chas. M. Tozer, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Scoville, Mrs. F. W. Larned, Mrs. W. W. Pratt, Mrs. H. Lynn, Mrs. Victor Blue and infant, Mrs. Sawyer, Mrs. J. F. Tompkins and infant, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Lyman, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Gray and Master Gray, Revs. F. W. Davis and J. M. Montaner, Misses A. and F. Rossiter, Irene Dixon, M. Mather, Carst, M. J. Robbins, E. Dezenegrenel, Audrey, and Else Hink, Messrs. E. P. Boyd, J. A. Brien, Asa Fisher, Rolland Gardiner, M. Baranski, L. G. Reinburg, W. H. Taylor, C. G. Cook, A. E. Phillips, D. F. Stephman, W. G. Pirie, Geo. C. Seliner, E. W. Tilden, W. F. Morris, H. K. Hemans, I. Lind, Byron Stevens, J. A. McGuffin, H. G. Herald, L. D. Rockwood, C. P. Witt, W. Lamont, W. L. Farnham, L. G. Maitland, Wm. Goodwin, and C. Davidson.

DEPARTED.

Per *Doric*, for Shanghai, Mrs. and Miss Moss, Messrs. C. A. Holmes, N. Keswick, R. W. Maitland, L. Goetzschell, F. Gordon, and Newman; for Kobe, Mr. W. F. Clarke; for Yokohama, Mr. A. S. Murray Stewart; for Honolulu, Messrs. C. A. Graham and L. K. Kentwell; for San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Strauss, Mr. and Mrs. L. Brignaudy, Mrs. A. A. Rosetti, Mrs. J. L. Rike, Misses E. N. Ward and E. Dalgleish, Messrs. N. Lejeune, E. M. Seligman, J. E. Harding, R. F. Mumme, R. Greig, A. Marques Oliveira, Geo. H. Shute, G. W. Jones, E. Rebestek, W. Wilson, and F. Ross.

Per *Bengal*, from Hongkong, for Penang, Mr. Mackay; for Colombo, Mr. Champollion; for Port Said, Mr. F. Reeves; for Brindisi, Mr. R. B. Young; for London, Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Oakwood, Lieut. Hy. Biron, R.N.R., and Mr. J. Jardine Paterson.

Per *Shawmut*, for Manila, from Hongkong, Col. and Mrs. J. B. Kerr, Messrs. H. E. Keylock, B. J. Barlow, and F. O'Brien; from Yokohama, Lieut. and Mrs. A. H. Potter, Mrs. and Miss Nazro, Mrs. R. D. White, Dr. and Mrs. R. H. Campbell, Mrs. Upham, Mrs. McNeely, Mrs. J. Fyffe, Mrs. and Miss Burwell, Mr. and Mrs. Ishikawa, Misses Stone and Greenough, and Mr. A. Romo; from Kobe, Mrs. Shellenberger, Mrs. Simmie, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Derkum, Mrs. Paseoe and child, Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson and child, Mr. and Mrs. Storm, Mrs. Rudd, Mrs. Keith, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Baumgardner, Misses Meyers and Harris, Dr. Herzog, Messrs. L. A. Roberts, H. B. Miller, S. Lopez, H. N. Brown, J. Muller, Peat, Gibson, Auerbach, Salinger, Smith, Cowan, Blair, Nichols, Thompson, Carter, Tarwater, Crabtree, Steinrauf, Borgstadt, Wagenlander, Gragherty, Robsen, Millis, Webster, F. Miller, U. Mizukami, and K. Kudo.

Per *Sachsen*, from Hongkong, for Hamburg, Mrs. Brindley and two children, Mrs. Chapman, Rev. and Mrs. Clayton and child, Prof. Dr. and Mrs. A. Conradi and four children, Mr. and Mrs. V. R. Eckford, Mrs. Field and child, Mr. and Mrs. de Witt Huberts, Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie and child, Mrs. Pfankuchen, Mrs. Preston, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Street and infant, Mrs. and Miss Thompson, Mrs. G. de la Valette, Miss E. de la Valette, Mrs. Watts, Mr. and Mrs. A. Waldeck, Mr. and Mrs. J. Whitfield, Mr. and Mrs. H. D. J. Wolf, General and Mrs. Winston, Revs. T. S. Lado ck, W. McGregor; Capt. Denison Adam, Rebbelmuud, and Smyth, Lieuts. von der Heyde, P. C. Hutton, and Wardsee, Misses van der Chys, Danby, Eyre, J. M. Johnson, McGregor, T. Nakajima, E. D. Skipton, and T. Yasui, Messrs. Frank Abbott, S. G. Bromley, J. Burns, G. J. Davies, A. Dentz, C. Draby, Alfredo Fiaschi, Geo. E. Field, E. A. Gibson, Adolf von Hagen, G. Hida, O. Ishizaka, M. Jaquet, J. G. Joakin and son, A. Krevasus, von Kusserow, J. H. Lo, J. H. Mayne (campbell, P. Michelsen, R. Nagashima, R. Nakajima, W. Partier, T. Y. Pearson, Rahlke, H. H. Raspe, Reid, Giov. Salsicconi, Carlos Sackermann, Seyd, L. Siebold, A. Sinclair, M. Umberto, T. Yamazaka, and S. Yida.

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